

Steamshovel Press



prophet?



Jim Keith on Oklahoma City



patsy?



patriots?



prostate?



paranoid?





SP 14

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Attention subscribers:

You have not missed an issue! *Steamshovel Press* #13 appears as a chapter in *Popular Alienation: A Steamshovel Press Reader*, the new back-issue anthology available from IllumiNet Press. In order to take advantage of that magic number, and to mimic the festering cesspool of confusion that characterizes the Conspiracy, all subscriptions have been bumped up a number. Subscriptions that ended with issue #15, for instance, now end with #16. This is reflected on your mailing label.

STEAMSHOVEL PRESS NUMBER 14

ISSN 10602-3795

FALL 1995

Editor/Publisher: Kenn Thomas

Layout Design: Jim Martin

In Memoriam: Jerry Garcia, 1942-1995

What's Your Frequency, Kenneth? Steamshovel Press aims at publication four times a year but is falling a little short this year. In contrast, Dan Rather is on every weekday night.

Next issue submission deadline: November 22, 1995.

The only guaranteed payment for accepted submissions is three contributor copies. Electronic submissions cheered. IBM ASCHI on 3.5" discs preferred.

Next issue advertising deadline: November 15

New Subscription Rates (the postage increases have finally caught up): \$22.50 for four issues; Single Issues: \$5 plus \$1 postage; Foreign Subscriptions cost \$28.

Back Issues: Individual back issues 5 and 7 through 11 are available for \$4 each, \$1 per copy postage (add \$2 foreign).

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Paranoid/Paranoia:

Media Buzzwords To Silence The Politically Incorrect

BY ALAN CANTWELL JR., M.D.

Ever since the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, there has been a media blitz blaming paranoid people and anti-government militia groups for the violent deaths.

Feeling the heat are ordinary citizens who believe in such things as the New World Order, or the plot to kill Kennedy, or the existence of UFOs, or the theory that AIDS is man-made, and countless other conspiracies. The media have been quick to dismiss these conspiracies as paranoia, thereby stifling serious discussion of these issues.

According to Webster's Dictionary, paranoia is a serious psychiatric diagnosis: a psychosis characterized by systematized delusions of persecution or grandeur usually without hallucinations. Paranoia can also be defined as a tendency on the part of an individual or group toward excessive and irrational suspiciousness and distrustfulness of others. People who exhibit such psychological traits are paranoid.

A definite diagnosis of paranoia requires the expertise of a psychiatric health professional. A diagnosis is made after a careful history and physical examination of the patient, and must include a detailed drug history and psychiatric observation.

All this is ignored by journalists who indiscriminately label people as paranoid. Their purpose is to discredit a person's mind and reasoning ability. Unfairly labelling people as paranoid is malicious and evil; and the word can be as hateful as words like nigger, kike, and faggot. When terms like paranoia and paranoid are tossed around in the media, rational communication is no longer possible.

A paranoid person is not normal because paranoia indicates a diseased mind.

In their quest for power, politicians often portray their perceived enemies as diseased. Hitler

was a master at this. After securing the cooperation of German physicians, he rid the Third Reich of thousands of mental and physical defectives by murdering them. When this was accomplished, he turned on the Jews. He labelled the Jews as a cancer that needed to be cut out of a diseased Germany. Thus, the roots of the Holocaust were planted.

Labelling people as diseased is an effective way of discrediting and silencing them.

The media overkill of paranoia is evident in "The Road to Paranoia," a 13-page essay by Michael Kelly appearing in *The New Yorker*, June 19, 1995. According to Kelly, "There have always been radical fringes on both the left and the right which believe that the government conspires against the people. But lately, the two have formed a strange alliance — fusion paranoia — that is reaching millions of disaffected Americans." He reviews the major conspiracy theories, and interviews conspiracist Bob Fletcher, a member of a political organization called the Militia of Montana.

Not surprisingly, Kelly makes Fletcher look like a friendly loony-bird. Kelly also savages Ross Perot, and his "paranoid style as the first fusion-paranoia candidate for the Presidency." In the 1996 Presidential race, "paranoia already has its first truly out-of-the-closet candidate, in the pugnacious form of Pat Buchanan."

As I read "The Road to Paranoia" I suddenly realized I was part of Kelly's story. For almost a decade, I had been promoting the idea that AIDS had originated as a genetically engineered virus that was deliberately seeded into the black and gay community via vaccine programs and experiments. My publishing house, Aries Rising Press, had published two books on the subject of

AIDS as a man-made epidemic, which were well received in the alternative press. Unfortunately, *AIDS & The Doctors of Death* so infuriated the World Health Organization that it was banned from sale at the International AIDS Conference in Montreal in 1989.

Despite all this I had not expected to find Aries Rising Press included in Kelly's list of several dozen "rapidly growing alternative media that traf-



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fic in conspiracism."

Kelly mentioned the conspiratorial belief that "AIDS is a government plot to kill off blacks and homosexuals," but no details were provided. Also mentioned was a 1990 poll of African-Americans concluding that "a third

the men died, the doctors rushed to get an autopsy, coaxing the family into giving permission by having the government pick up the tab for the funeral expenses. Under pressure from civil rights activists, this racist experiment was finally terminated in 1972.

Joseph writes that the memory of Tuskegee "fueled a conspiratorial theory among blacks that AIDS resulted from a biological experiment, gone awry, performed on Africans by the United States government."

Conspiratologists know that government doctors and scientists, and the military, have conducted covert experiments on unsuspecting civilians. Recently the nation was shocked to learn that physicians had performed dangerous radiation experiments on unsuspecting hospitalized patients from the 1950s up until the 1980s. The proof was contained in previously classified gov-

par-a-noi-a (pär'ə-noi'ə) n. A nondegenerative, limited, usually chronic psychosis characterized by delusions of persecution or of grandeur, strenuously defended by the afflicted with apparent logic and reason. [New Latin, from Greek, madness, from *paranoos*, deranged : *para*, beyond + *nous*, mind]

believe that HIV was produced by scientists and disseminated through black neighborhoods for the purpose of genocide."

A decade ago, the idea of AIDS as a man-made disease was considered nonsense. Now the theory is frequently mentioned in the major media, but the evidence for it is never discussed, and the idea is always dismissed as paranoid. However, a surprising number of people I have talked to in the past few years now think the theory makes more sense than the government's African green monkey story.

Ex-New York City Health Commissioner Stephen Joseph, in his AIDS book *Dragon Within the Gates*, also dismisses without explanation "the paranoid theories about AIDS being a deliberate invention of biological warfare." However, he does note "the scars left by the Tuskegee experiment" in the Black community. In this notorious government-sponsored syphilis experiment, public health doctors deliberately lied to black sharecroppers in Alabama for over 40 years. The men were never told they were infected with syphilis, and when a penicillin cure became available the doctors withheld treatment so that they could study the devastating effect of untreated syphilis. When

ernment documents released by the Department of Energy.

Charges of secret and unethical experiments against helpless American citizens are not the ravings of paranoid people. On the contrary, they are serious accusations of an informed and enlightened citizenry.

It is time to speak out against falsely labelling people as paranoid.

Paranoid and paranoia are acceptable terms when used in a medical setting. But they have no place in slandering and denigrating people who express alternative views in a democratic society.

Dr. Cantwell is the author of *Queer Blood* and *AIDS & The Doctors of Death*—two books on the man-made origin of AIDS. Further information can be obtained from Aries Rising Press, PO Box 29532, Los Angeles, CA 90029, voice/FAX 213-462-6458.



The Only Honest Judge?

An Interview With John Judge by Kenn Thomas

Q: What did you think of E. Howard Hunt having dinner with Oliver Stone (1)?

A: I didn't hear about that.

Q: Omgod. That was one of the great social events of the season, along with Mark Fuhrman having dinner with Ed Meese. You heard about that, I take it (2)?

A: No. The last dinner engagement I remember is Hinckley's older brother with Neil Bush.

Q: Let's talk about the new COPA conference coming up and what can we expect will be looked at there, the new material that has come out since the Assassination Materials Review Act (3).

A: Probably the most exhaustive look at the records that's turned itself now into a new book is John Newman's *Oswald and the CIA*. Although it hasn't got a smoking gun, it's got smoking files. Some very interesting stuff about how early on the CIA opened up files on Oswald and was looking at him. A lot of surveillance pertaining to him that they had not admitted in the past. Newman, because of his intelligence background and familiarity with looking at files and signing off on files, was able to track what you and I would see in a file from reading it, but also the initials on it, the re-routing, who saw it, and from that he was able to reconstruct a lot of the structure of the CIA at the time, especially the segments that would have been dealing with Oswald in Mexico or otherwise.

That's been interesting. A lot of us had heard of Z-Rifle or AMLASH, he found nearly fifty code operations like that that he was able to identify and see in some cases who they were connected with. He also clearly shows that there was some sort of a deception game going on that involved the agency and the embassy in Mexico City at the time that he was down there. There was an Oswald impersonator. There's evidence earlier that Oswald's name is being used in connection with intelligence operations and that also Oswald was clearly being tracked during the time he was with

the Fair Play For Cuba Committee. There's a whole fair Play For Cuba Committee section of the documents there, including, interestingly enough, some documents that show that David Atlee Phillips was working with James McCord, later of Watergate fame, early on. We're thinking about trying to put that document out. We try to do a document a month in Open Secrets. Each issue has at least one document that's sort of new or interesting.

Q: Now the conference that you're having in October, Newman's going to be a speaker, right? And you are going to have a number of different people that are specialized in various areas from the new files?

A: A little different than, maybe, a conference like the ASK conference in Dallas, where people are just invited to speak. We do our conferences in a semi-professional manner, like a scientific conference is held. And what we require is that we put out a call for papers and we ask for people to send up to 500 words as an abstract of the paper that they want to present. And there is some peer review, and committee review. ASK tended to be a showcase for current or known authors. ASK was basically a podium down situation and it also had a lot of frivolous presentation and really didn't have any standard as to what could be presented. It was basically a commercial venture and it was never putting any resources back into the hands of the research community. The Coalition is made up of and run by the research community and elements of it and it represents the interests of that research community and its long-time members. So we try to put on a conference that limited research community and the general public. We are also hoping to get some press. We'd like to get gavel-to-gavel CNN coverage.

Q: Is that possible?

A: I think so. They're people were interested last year, but they make priority decisions each day and there was some stuff going on in Congress at the time.

Q: But never seems like a priority to have this kind of thing in the media. Although Norman Mailer is getting on Larry King and all that.

A: Right. It was clear to me in interviews when Mailer was asked why he chose to do this book on Oswald, he based it on the fact that Lawrence Schiller had gotten private access to the Minsk

KGB files on Oswald and was willing to share those with Mailer. It's hard for me to imagine that Schiller was able to get those kind of documents based on his access to the KGB there or some sort of salesmanship. I would think that in order to crack that nut you would have to have some links to current KGB and US intelligence interconnections.

Q: Now what do we know about Schiller?

A: Schiller goes back in the history of the critical community at least as far as 1967 as the source to the very first character assassination attack on the critical community in a book called *Scavengers and Critics of the Warren Commission* by Warren Lewis. The subtitle of that book is "Based on an Investigation by Lawrence Schiller."

Q: That's the kind of credit line he has in Albert Goldman's book on Lenny Bruce.

A: "Based on the Journalism of Lawrence Schiller" is the subhead to both Goldman's book on Lenny Bruce...

Q: Which was a smear.

A: Right. Honey Bruce challenged Goldman to a debate and reportedly his response was, "I can't debate you, you know too much." Then Goldman did the later smear on John Lennon with that same by-line. So Schiller seems to be somebody who collects dirt on people and then has these sort of ghost writers do the hit job. It's what I call the second assassination. First you kill the body and then you kill the character of a person. There's quite a bit of this literature about Kennedy, regular media attacks on Kennedy and on Robert as well and sex scandals relating to Martin Luther King and that sort of thing. These are intermittent. We usually get a Chappaquiddick book just around election time in case Teddy's thinking of running.

Q: The only book on Kennedy that is for sale at the National Archives book was the one by Richard Reeves, totally trashing Kennedy.

A: So it's that sort of thing and Schiller seems to be an expert at it.

Q: You can see Norman Mailer hedging his bets on the TV shows. He says he's 75% sure that Oswald acted alone.

A: I think Mailer, who funded the original Assassination Information Bureau, the Carl Oglesby operation in the 1970s that led to the House Select Committee, is basically allowing himself an out.

Mailer was asked at a press conference at ASK how long he had known Lawrence Schiller. And he said, "We go way back. We worked together on that book about the critics." Which means that Mailer somehow even back then Mailer was attacking at least part of the critical community. But that book slams Sylvia Meagher, Penn Jones, Harold Weisberg, a lot of the early critics are downplayed in that book and their personal quirks are pointed out.



Q: So Mailer has this love/hate relationship with the critical community.

A: Either with the whole community or some part of it. Maybe there is a separate agenda at work here. If you discredit parts of the community, but certainly that early book attacks almost the whole community, and yet at the same time he shows up later as one of the

defenders of people looking into the truth. He talked in those years of forming a People's CIA. Now he seems to be much more back in bed in a clear way with the intelligence community, or at least some segment of it. Maybe he feels disenfranchised, I don't know. *Harlot's Ghost* is an interesting book in that it takes the other tack that Oswald may have been a lone assassin but he was at least connected enough to the intelligence community that he was upsetting all the apple carts.

This is the last book in a four book contract. He's basically edged into a position where he won't come all the way out and say that Oswald did it because he knows it's not true. He can't base it on the evidence. He says you can't get in to the miasma of the evidence, we have to get to the other questions, which is why did Oswald choose Kennedy as his victim? Well, if you can't prove that Oswald shot Kennedy, it's useless to discuss why

THE PURPOSE OF THESE THINGS IS TO CREATE A STRATEGY OF TENSION IN THE COUNTRY, OF FEAR, AND USE THAT AS THE GUISE TO BUILD UP THE POLICE INTELLIGENCE STATE, TO REDUCE THE RIGHTS OF THE CITIZENS TO A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND TO PUT EVERYBODY IN THE POSITION OF BASICALLY HAVING THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS ABROGATED AND HAVING THESE POLICE STRUCTURES WELL FUNDED.

he chose Kennedy.

Q: Let's talk a little bit about Oklahoma City. Comparisons have been made between Timothy McVeigh and Oswald. What do you think is going on there? Is McVeigh a patsy?

A: It's too early to tell. We've got a story here that took a while in the making for them to come out with anything resembling an official version. Actually, a number of patsies were picked up early on and then dropped like hot potatoes. Early on there were two middle eastern looking individuals that were in a brown pick up truck. And then there was an early report that the axle found two blocks from the explosion matched a brown pick up truck rented from the Dallas/Ft. Worth airport. Then there were two men seen in a car in identical matching blue jump suits, trying not to be noticed. And then there was a Jordanian who was arrested at the Chicago airport.

Q: You actually talked to that guy.

A: He was an individual who lived in Oklahoma City, worked for a computer company, he was not computer builder or engineer. He worked in sales at a computer company in Oklahoma City. He said chemistry was his worst subject in high school and he was trying to tell the FBI that he wouldn't know how to build a bomb. He was picked up he told me solely on the basis of a physical profile. In other words, he was a middle eastern looking person and he was leaving Oklahoma City that day. It may have been the location or it may have been that they saw this guy in the Chicago airport and they decided to grab somebody. They detained him for

almost seven hours in Chicago. The INS first challenged him for about three hours on the basis that his passport was fake, as if that was something you couldn't check by phone in a few minutes. The FBI grilled him about where he was at the time of the bombing, what did he know about the bombing, what did he know about the politics of the Muslim community there, which is fairly small. They did have a national conference there because the hotels were cheap, but it's hardly a hotbed of radical Muslim activity.

Of course it immediately created a backlash of anti-Arab sentiment here in the US. Even Arab child care centers were getting bomb threat calls from Americans. There was a lot of talk while they were holding this guy. He was the first lengthy suspect in the case.

Q: While they were holding him, his luggage was going to Rome.

A: That's what I asked him, because I saw on CNN that his luggage was being emptied in Rome and they were saying that he had a hammer in there and he had some tape in there. He had brought some tools and things of better quality in this country to take back to his family in Jordan. And he had some electrical wire, and these were wires and things off the back of a VCR and he had brought again to bring back to the family. They said he had silicon in there and I asked him about that and he said, "well, I had bought some caulking material for my uncle's sick, which was better quality, and I bought it here and I had two tubes of caulking material. And they said all of this could be used to make a bomb." Well, most of us would be in trouble if we went to our tool drawer and looked under our kitchen sink, you know, you could put together a terrorist bomb right there in the kitchen. But the question that I asked him was, "How was it that your bag was in Rome while you were at Heathrow in England?" He said, "Well, when they stopped me in Chicago, they didn't stop my bag." And I immediately said to him, then they didn't think you were the terrorist. Because the bag would have been stopped quicker than the suspect. They would not have let the plane leave the ground with the bag in it."

I think they were buying time. They got a patsy. They got a certain public reaction that they wanted quickly. Maybe eventually they were going to build that in to a larger cover story and for some reason that didn't work out. Eventually, but after quite a bit of time, days, we get Timothy McVeigh.

My version of this, because I heard about it

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THIS BECAUSE I JUST READ IT IN THE SPOTLIGHT. I'M TALKING ABOUT IT BECAUSE I DID YEARS OF STUDY ON THE LAWS AND THE THINGS THAT MAKE THESE POSSIBLE AND THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE RISE OF AMERICAN FASCISM AND ITS CONCENTRATION ESPECIALLY SINCE THE TIME OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

on that day coming in to DC, I had flown in from California, on my way to a demonstration planned at noon in front of the FBI headquarters here in DC against domestic terrorism by the FBI and BATF, because it was the Waco remembrance. It was the anniversary of Waco and I was coming to talk about the militarization of police, which I really think is the unifying principle of these different scenarios and events, from Waco on back, to Wounded Knee, the MOVE situation, the SLA burn out, and all these exhibit different aspects of a growing scenario that has to do with both the militarization of police and the use of military troops in police work, and the breaking down of the division between the military and the police and the old Posse Comitatus Act. In fact, one of the elements of the counter-terrorism bill that Clinton composed was to end the Posse Comitatus restriction on bringing the military into counter-terrorism activities. The Senate version, the one that just passed, does not have it as broad, but it did accept a provision for nuclear, chemical or biological warfare terrorism scenarios, to bring the military in. But I have said for years from my study of this counter-terrorism clique that's built up in this country, and Ollie North is part of it, the Delta Force and all these different things that figure into the contra-gate scandal were counter-terrorism units. And there's a whole counter-terrorism industry that popped back up at the time of the Oklahoma bombing, again justifying its funding and its expansion and its over-riding of the rights of Americans.

Q: Almost as if "counter-terrorism" is the catch phrase that replaces "national security."

A: Yes. And that we now have a new enemy worse than we thought. That was one of the things that sort of struck me about the racist interpretation that this country makes. First there's the assumption that it must have been Arabs. When I heard that it was an Oklahoma City federal building, I immediately ruled out in my mind that it was an international bombing, by international terrorists, because the building is too obscure. It has no symbolic value. It has no political value. It's in-land. And the whole idea of get them in the heartland, that will scare them. Something going off in DC would have had much more of an impact. Not that I'm suggesting such a thing, I'm just saying that if you were going to pick a target you would expect an international terrorist group, wanting to get at the US, I mean, the Trade Towers are symbolic in that they are right there in the heart of the financial district there in New York. A federal office with a lot of field workers in Oklahoma did not make sense to me from the beginning.

It also didn't make sense to me later as something for the militia to do or something for even a disgruntled person upset about Waco to do, as we are told that Timothy McVeigh was. What it fits into to me is what is known in Europe as the strategy of tension. This is revealed through the works of Stefano Dellachaiiae for one. He's an Italian terrorist and he's responsible for a number of bombings of trains and public places, airport or train station bombings that set a pattern there—and other terrorists are doing this in other parts of Europe, France and other places. Dellachaiiae represents this liaison that was formed between these neo-Nazi and fascist elements and also police intelligence units and segments of the national security and intelligence state. These bombings were planned and done in such a way that original credit or blame would be given to the left wing. When that cover story would fall through, if it did, the intelligence agencies would still be removed enough that they could blame elements of the right wing, but they hope it would never come back to the original planners. The purpose of these things is to create a strategy of tension in the country, of fear, and use that as the guise to build up the police intelligence state, to reduce the rights of the citizens to a democratic process and to put everybody in the position of basically having their civil rights abrogated and having these police structures well funded. It becomes an excuse then for an increase in fascist rule.

Q: This sounds very similar to what a lot of the militia groups are saying.

A: I think that the militia groups are saying it in the sense that they have a suspicion that the government was involved in this. But what I see with the militia groups is that most of them have done very little investigative work on the government, the national security state and how it functions. They have a fear of the government. They see the government as a monolith. To such an extent that some are thinking that Bill Clinton is sitting in the White House saying, "OK, let's murder those little babies there in Oklahoma City so that we can pass this bill and bring in the New World Order." When I say that the government may have been involved in a thing like the Oklahoma City bombing,

what I am talking about is specific segments of military intelligence and police intelligence and the national security state. I'm not talking about a plan that reaches to the White House through all of Congress, because such a plan wouldn't wash. You have to assume that some of the federal agents working in that building had some friends in the government as well who might not have wanted to see them blown up. It's more likely that if there's government involvement in the situation it really has to do with a segment that's trying to maintain funding and presence, and expanding presence, for these militarized police within the context of the state.

The mood here in DC just prior to the Oklahoma City bombing had a lot to do with the fact the CIA was in trouble. It had the Ames scandal, but it also had just started to break the Jennifer Harbury story to Representative Robert Torricelli, who spilled the beans on the fact that a current client of the CIA, on CIA payroll in Guatemala, this colonel, was responsible for the murder of an American citizen and the husband of another American citizen. That these were basically carries out as state terror assassinations for political purposes in that country. Harbury's husband was a member of the Guatemalan left, a guerilla, who was captured by this Colonel Alperéz. This colonel has been dismissed but he was given a severance well beyond anything that people in his position in the military would get. So he's been

given this big bonus check at the end and we're not sure if that hasn't come from U.S. funds. But this was a big embarrassment in DC for the CIA and involved the CIA again in foreign assassinations and assassinations of American citizens, and there was quite a fight. And Torricelli released this information to Harbury and to the press and gave it to the Congress and he was immediately under attack by Newt Gingrich. Gingrich wanted him removed from the intelligence committee. What's happened in the past is that when people have for ethical reasons revealed government wrongdoing, they've been kicked off those committees because they are not keeping their secrecy oaths. In addition to that, the Republicans had demanded during this current term a new secrecy oath for every-

body in Congress, including the intelligence committee. And they were saying that Toricelli was violating the House rules.

Q: Never mind what he was saying, just that he was saying anything.

A: That's right. I don't want to paint him as a saint because this is a person who openly calls for a US invasion of Cuba. This is a person who for years supported the funding of the military government in El Salvador and turned a blind eye to the death squads there. But for whatever sets of reasons, Toricelli took the correct position that his ethics and the ethics of the situation were in direct conflict with his secrecy oath. He said that his constitutional oath to uphold the law took precedence over any secrecy oath. So I actually worked to organize about fifty national groups in the DC area to a sign-on statement supporting the principle—not everything Torricelli does, but the principle that he had moved on and the other people who have moved on it in saying that principle ought to be established as part of any congressional agreement to secrecy. It has to have the imprimatur that unless the congress person is aware of things that violate the constitution and US law. It's their responsibility to reveal the wrongdoing and not to hold to the secrecy. Of course, the intelligence agencies don't want this. Gingrich not only wanted Torricelli removed, he didn't want an investigation into the Harbury incident and that this is no time to be attacking the CIA. The CIA had to be expanded in this period.

Q: This is right before Oklahoma City.

A: This is in early April. On April 4th, the *Washington Post* editorialized against the counter-terrorism bill. In an editorial, it said, "Is this American Justice?", asking specifically about some of the provisions that had to do with these secret trials that were going to be held with immigrants into the country. This bill was basically taking us back into the situation of the 1920s and the Palmer raids when accusation alone would become the basis for a secret trial and a secret deportation and no right to challenge or appeal. Blatantly anti-constitutional stuff in there, the breakdown of Posse Comitatus, a lot of provisions on wiretapping authority expanding, basically making legal all of the COINTELPRO stuff that the FBI was held back from doing legally since the 1970s.

The *Post* came out against, the military budget was under question because the welfare budget was under attack and people were saying what about corporate and military welfare. All of that turned around after the Oklahoma bombing.

THERE ARE A LOT OF DISINFORMATION RUMORS FLYING AROUND. MICHAEL MCLURE SAID YEARS AGO THAT EVEN PARANOIDS HAVE ENEMIES. THAT'S TRUE, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT THE PARANOIDS KNOW WHO THEIR ENEMIES ARE.

I'm not talking about this because I just read it in the *Spotlight*. I'm talking about it because I did years of study on the laws and the things that make these possible and the historical background of the rise of American fascism and its concentration especially since the time of the Kennedy assassination. These are things that I don't see being hit except in the most peripheral way by most of commentary from these militia groups. I

par-a-noid (pā-noid') adj.
Or afflicted with paranoia.
Unreasonable distrust, suspicion, or an exaggerated sense of one's own importance.
1. Pertaining to, characteristic of, suggestive of, or an of paranoia; showing suspicion.
2. One afflicted with paranoia; a paranoiac.

The counter-terrorism bill was on a roll, not likely to be stopped. Right are going to be curtailed because of it. The CIA is back in a position of saying that we need them to protect us from terrorism. Now we have an enemy, we're at the end of the Cold War. The peace dividend was still waiting but finally maybe we could get a smaller military, well now we can't, it's not Communism, it's terrorism that's the enemy. And these are things that I have talked about in my lectures for the last ten years, that terrorism is going to be the new enemy, the new excuse for state repression, specifically nuclear terrorism but now perhaps also chemical and biological is being thrown in with the Sarin attack in Japan that's being thrown in at the same time. They're going to scare the American public bad enough with one of these scenarios that it will be willing to go into a suspension of the constitution and into martial law.

could trace most of it for you through the right-wing literature that I get in the mail, through *Spotlight* and *Cosmic Connection*, which is Jesus and Buddha telling you to read Lyndon LaRouche, through some of the Nazi literature. In fact, one of the most amusing things to me, for its perversity, sections in the neo-Nazi and American fascist literature was talking about concentrations camps in America and how they were going to be used to pick up all the blacks and all the Hispanics and then it was saying to this audience, "Why should that bother me? That's where those people belong anyway? But here's the kicker: you're going to have to be in there with them, in the same concentration camp with all those people you hate."

Q: At the militia meetings I attended it did not seem like anyone there had the first awareness that what was being done to them, Ruby Ridge and Waco...

A...has been done to others. They have two martyrs and they have no other victims. They are people that in my estimation seem to have read the first amendment and don't quite understand it. Then they got to the second amendment and they liked it so well that that took care of the rest.

Q: You can't really connect McVeigh to any of these groups, though.

A: Only in the sense that he seems to have played the same role that Oswald did with the right wing Cubans in being someone who came into their midst and promised a little more violence than they were ready for and was tossed out. This is also the way the classic *provocateur* establishes a legend and a connection to groups they eventually want to hang with particular crime.



Q: You mentioned that you talked to Michael Fortier before his "confession."

A: Myself and researchers I know talked to Fortier. He was an army buddy of McVeigh's and he also helped McVeigh get the job out in Arizona at the TruValue hardware store. When he spoke with us, and he didn't have to speak with us, we're not press, and if he was part of this elaborate it would not be likely that he would talk to anybody. He was saying to us that he knew McVeigh and he didn't think McVeigh would do anything like this. He had never seen indication that McVeigh would bomb a building or do this kind of violence. He basically expressed frustration with the way things were going. He said, what happened to innocent until proven guilty? Now he seems to be the main prosecution witness. They have him visiting the building, checking it out with McVeigh. There's a whole

story that's implicated McVeigh.

Q: He seems to be plea bargaining with that.

A: I guess. It seems like they put him over a barrel and they said it's either going to be you or McVeigh, so take your pick. That's the implication always when you have somebody that's cooperating and all of sudden they become a suspect, or vice versa, you have to wonder about what the prosecution is up to. And there have been a string of these: the brother out on the farm in Michigan, Terry Nichols; was first said to be a very cooperative person and eventually become suspects. These people become suspects but then we're told they are not suspects in the bombing. They are just suspects of other, sort of related, crimes. Blowing up cans in the back yard, I guess.

There are a lot of disinformation rumors flying around. Michael McLure said years ago that even paranoids have enemies. That's true, but that doesn't mean that the paranoids know who their enemies are.

Q: That's my feeling about people I have met in the militia movement. Some of them are real, sincere populist types, but they should have real suspicions about their leadership.

A: It's quite likely that these groups are either created whole cloth or heavily infiltrated. These kinds of groups would be of use to the government, both in terms of as they sued the Klan and the Hell's Angels in the past, as an arm of the government to be paid to do murders, assassinations, hits or attacks on people that the government wanted to go after and thereby camouflage, this one done through COINTELPRO and other programs—Hell's Angels were paid off by the US government to kill Cesar Chavez, there were different plots of this sort in the past. So they're a good scapegoat if they need one. There's also quite a bit of history of missing weapons being stolen from military bases and in a few cases where there are suspects, these suspects tie back in to either the Aryan Brotherhood, neo-Nazi, right-wing or these militia movements. It was very clear that there were active police department and active military and reserve military veterans in the militia, even three congressmen were named in the congressional roll call as members of the militia. So the militia have clearly a whole range of people.

The militia want to see themselves as victims. They would say that the government did the Oklahoma bombing and are scapegoating them

because they want to destroy the militia and take their guns away. I think all anybody has to do to put that claim in perspective is look at how the Panthers were treated in the 1960s, when black people picked up guns and how different their experience was. There weren't Panthers getting on *Nightline*. There weren't people being allowed to just espouse their philosophy without any political comeback. The militia people are basically being given a forum. "Are you a racist organization?" "Oh, no." But these are predominantly white organizations and their response to the situation that they believe is going on, which is partially racism and xenophobia coming out, that United Nations is bringing foreign troops and foreign weapons—this isn't going to be done with a good old American tank, they're going to have go import a Russian tank to do this to us. We're more than willing to be a conduit for foreign weapons and to ship them out as long as they are inferior to any other country on the dole. We certainly do bring foreign troops into this country and train them, as assassins and death squads, we train other foreign troops to be surrogate forces for us around the world, and it's us that's taking over the UN, not the other way around. The UN has clearly been used as an extension of US foreign policy for many years.

It's not that to that there haven't been victims of these federal police attacks, but you're comparing a few, the one Randy Weaver, even the hundred people at Waco, the underlying theme is that the people that the government is really after are these good white Christians.

Q: This is exactly the kind of thing that's behind, say, Qubilah Shabazz and Louis Farrakhan. The FBI is going in and trying to manipulate Shabazz into taking a contract out on Farrakhan. The militias don't seem to care about that. They don't care about the Black Panthers. But when it happens to Randy Weaver or the strange Christians at Mt. Carmel, the whole movement is enflamed.

A: Or the children in Waco or the children in Oklahoma City. But foreign children, when they

THERE WEREN'T PANTHERS GETTING ON NIGHTLINE. THERE WEREN'T PEOPLE BEING ALLOWED TO JUST ESPOUSE THEIR PHILOSOPHY WITHOUT ANY POLITICAL COMEBACK. THE MILITIA PEOPLE ARE BASICALLY BEING GIVEN A FORUM.

die, aren't somehow as innocent or deserving of our pity. There's stories about seeing foreign troops being trained to go house to house and disarm the people in the houses. That's classic counter-insurgency warfare strategy that they would use in a place like Somalia. Does it mean that they wouldn't use it here? No, but the communities where it's going to be used first are the communities where they are afraid of people having guns. They have been providing guns to people in this country, much more so than taking them away. Any kid in Los Angeles, on the streets in a black or Hispanic neighborhood, in the gangs, they know where to go to get the guns. They come in by the trainload literally. On certain nights and certain locations you go down and you can buy the guns. It's like the drugs. They don't come from the moon, they don't come from a sixteen year old kid with a plane that goes to Bogota every week. They come through channels that involve government complicity or looking the other way.

Guns generally don't protect homes. It's more likely that it's going to end up with a gun fatality in the home. On the other hand, I'm not saying that therefore no one should own a gun. But what I am saying is that guns cannot be said to protect civil liberties. The fact that somebody

armed themselves—as G. Gordon Liddy says, when BATF comes to break into the house, shoot for the head because of the vests they've got on—is not protecting the civil liberties of themselves and the broader rights of people. Most of the people that focus on the second amendment rights are not



JOHN JUDGE

people that I have ever seen focussed on anybody else's rights in the United States. They aren't concerned about the violation of civil and human rights here and abroad by this government for many, many years. They are people who have a kind of reactionary response, a selfish response of "I'm going to protect what I have."

Going out and practicing with a 350 Magnum in the woods is the response of the last guy in a prison riot. In the last cell, back in there saying, "Come on in, you dirty screws! You'll never take me alive and I'm going to take a couple of you with me. Pry the gun out of my cold, dead hand." Well, so what? This isn't about changing the United States. It really isn't about realizing constitutional rights. It's about individual protection. It's the response of the guy who goes down to his fall-out shelter as a response to the bomb and not only that, won't let you in. He takes the shot gun down there to make sure you try and come in.

There is another view. Yes, the government has conspired to take away your rights. But the thing to do about it is to expose it and to work for a democratic and public solution to it, not a private or little militia vigilante solution to it, because it doesn't rest there. You are not going to win a pop-gun war against the current US military. If the only game you understand how to play is the gun game, you've lost at this point in human history.

1. *Steamshovel Debris*: According to the *Chicago Sun-Times*, May 28, 1995 veteran spook E. Howard Hunt—of Bay of Pigs, JFK assassination and Watergate fame—visited the set of Oliver Stone's new movie, *Nixon*, and had lunch with Stone and Anthony Hopkins, who plays the late, unlamented ex-president. Actor Ed Harris, who plays Hunt, was not present.

2. *More Debris*: On May 24, 1995, the *Atlanta Journal* noted that "Diners at the University Club [in Washington] reportedly were abuzz last week over a pair lunching together: former Attorney General Ed Meese and Los Angeles detective Mark Fuhrman, who came to fame in the O.J. Simpson case." In June, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported that Fuhrman has written a book entitled *Letters to Mark Fuhrman*, "a sock at Simpson's book about letters he got in prison...So now we know at least part of the luncheon conversation in Washington recently between former U.S. Attorney Ed Meese and Fuhrman."

As it turned out, the two may have dis-

cussed more than the book deal. As the *Charleston Gazette* put it in its September 2 edition, "Edwin Meese - the shabby former U.S. attorney general who hid wrongdoing in the Reagan administration - is defending Fuhrman and raising defense money for him. Meese is a director of a Washington committee called the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund. We always wondered how Meese escaped going to jail with all the other high-ranking Reagan officials. It's fitting that he's now allied to a lying racist."

O. J. Simpson lawyer Alan Dershowitz reported to the United Features Syndicate that "former Reagan Attorney General Edwin Meese, and his Assistant Attorney General Bradford Reynolds...are two of the four directors of an organization called the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund, located in Arlington, Va. On Aug. 17, 1995 - several days after it was disclosed that Los Angeles Police Officer Mark Fuhrman had bragged on tape about committing perjury and tampering with evidence - the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund issued a statement of support for Mark Fuhrman. The names of Meese and Reynolds and the fact that they are, respectively, the former attorney general and the former assistant attorney general, are featured prominently on the statement."

"When I first saw the letter, I was so shocked that I called the office of the fund's director to confirm that it is authentic. It is! On Aug. 23, 1995, I called again and was told that the fund is now soliciting money for Fuhrman's

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think so.
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defense."

"The thrust of the Meese-Reynolds letter is that if Fuhrman lied or planted evidence, the jury should not learn of these facts. So much for the Fourth and Sixth Amendments. Instead, the Meese-Reynolds letter proposes that the defendant should testify that he is innocent. So much for the Fifth Amendment."

"Earlier, Meese had joined Fuhrman for lunch at the University Club in Washington. Now Meese is helping to solicit funds for Fuhrman. Consider the message this show of support sends to other officers. If you lie, tamper with evidence and express racist views, the former attorney general of the United States and his deputy will support you."

One brief mention of Meese's connection to Fuhrman was made on CNN.

3. The Second Annual National Conference of the Coalition On Political Assassinations, happens at the Omni Sheraton Hotel in Washington, DC, October 20-22, 1995. The conference's theme will be "JFK-RFK-MLK: New Information from the Released Files." Researchers, academics, forensic and medical experts and others will present current information and analysis of these political murders. The conference will feature

"Assassinations 101" for local students and teachers, an Awards Dinner, and presentations by the Assassinations Records Review Board. Pre-registration and student discounts apply; additional discounts for those who stay two or more nights at the Omni Sheraton (1-800 THE OMNI). Train and air travel discounts have been arranged. Call COPA's conference hotline, 202-310-1858 for more information. Basic annual membership in COPA costs \$35. Send inquiries to POB 772, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044-0772 (202-785-5299).



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A Prophet In Her Own Compound:

The Millennial Angst of Elizabeth Clare Prophet, Secretary To The Gods

BY CHRIS ROTH

"OM on the Range," reads a headline in a recent issue of *Royal Teton Ranch News*, the monthly bulletin of the Church Universal and Triumphant's bunkered compound in the Rockies near Yellowstone National Park. Those four words underline the surreal contrasts within a millennial sect of Theosophy that claims thousands of members in forty countries, led by the charismatic Elizabeth Clare Prophet. On the one hand, the ranch sells itself as a rustic ashram, a Zen wilderness retreat full of happy, organically-fed families. On the other, there is evidence of ties to the worst elements of the extremist right wing.

One former "Keeper of the Flame," as advanced members are called, described Royal Teton Ranch as an "incredibly wealthy" commune, bristling with firearms and rife with racist ideologies, where Prophet whipped her devoted followers into a millennial frenzy during an "end of the world" scare in 1990. There are fears that this isolated ranch could be the next Waco.

"OM on the Range" is right. A recent summer session in world religions at the church's "Summit University" interspersed 4th of July picnics, hiking and fishing tours, and courses in aerobics and survival-skills with events like the "Great Central Sun Ritual" and "Initiations at the High Altar." Highlights included Prophet's channeled messages (she prefers the term "dictations") from "Ascended Masters" like Lord Shiva, St. Joseph, Zarathustra, St. Germaine, the Buddha, and Prophet's late husband Mark L. Prophet, who in previous lives was Sir Lancelot and Hiawatha and now goes by the name Beloved Lanello.

To a large extent the Church Universal and Triumphant (or C.U.T.) is Elizabeth Clare Prophet. Prophet, who is in her fifties, is the author of more than fifty books (with over a million copies in print) and hosts cable-TV programs reaching 35 million people. On tour, she dresses in televangelically glittery robes and chants and channels her way through high-rolling stage-shows full of shiny, art-deco icons and dark warnings of nuclear doom. Her teachings are a mishmash—or a union, if you



prefer-of world faiths, with a heavy overlay of Theosophy, that product of 19th-century British spiritualism which introduced Westerners to reincarnation, karma, and "the New Age."

True, many Americans feel comfortable with reincarnation and karma—partly because enough of them aren't devoutly Christian enough to reject those possibilities outright. But why did Prophet's followers build air-raid shelters in Montana in 1990 in preparation for a nuclear apocalypse, and why (after it failed to come about) do C.U.T. members across America still flock to spend large amounts of money to attend glitzy, high-energy "dictation" sessions whenever "the Messenger," or "Mother," or "Guru Ma"—as Prophet is variously known—comes through town?

The last time Mrs. Prophet came through Chicago was February 1993, and, in the midst of her four-day marathon of lectures, dictations, and rituals at the North Shore Hilton in Skokie, I spoke with her for an hour and a half. She struck me as a healthy, down-to-earth, and plain-speaking American woman whose only peculiarity, aside from a sharp intelligence and a subtle show-biz

THERE ARE FEARS THAT THIS
ISOLATED RANCH COULD BE THE
NEXT WACO.

savvy, was that she claimed to be the one Messenger for the Ascended Masters on planet Earth. My willingness to perceive her as a charlatan was continually ambushed by her charm and apparent candor.

But I came away with more questions than answers about Prophet and about the appeal of her church. For answers, we need to look first at who Elizabeth Clare Prophet is and where the Church Universal and Triumphant came from. The truth may be surprising and may answer the question of whether the C.U.T. will be the next Waco, as many seem to think, or whether it's no more harmful than yoga or crystal necklaces.

From New Jersey to New Age

According to official Church publicity, Elizabeth Clare Wulf was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1939 and attended school in Switzerland, at Antioch College, and at Boston University, where she earned a B.A. in political science. Reared in the spiritual-healing doctrines of Christian Science, the Ur-church of the American self-help movement, she claims she heard Jesus speak to her at an early age, warning her of the inadequacy of modern Judaeo-Christian faiths. She was buffeted by recollections of past lives (now said to include Jesus's disciple St. Martha and St. Catherine of Siena) and by a powerful attraction to a book in her family library on St. Germaine, the legendary alchemist.

The young Elizabeth met her own shining saint in Boston in 1961 in the Rev. Mark L. Prophet, a Pentecostal-bred preacher from Wisconsin who, following a series of visions and communications with the spirit of a turbaned mystic named El Morya, had founded the Summit Lighthouse in 1958. Elizabeth recognized Mark as "the teacher she had been looking for all her life." El Morya (the reincarnation of King Arthur and Sir Thomas More, the C.U.T. now claims) appeared before long to her also to instruct her to let Mark train her as a messenger in "the Great White Brotherhood" (a body which a recent C.U.T.

pamphlet explains in a footnote "refers not to race, but to the white light of the Christ that emanates from the auras of all ascended beings"—a story the former Keeper of the Flame I interviewed finds unconvincing). Mark and Elizabeth were married in 1963 and moved to Colorado in 1966, where they attracted more and more followers, published books, held lectures and "dictations," and raised three daughters, Erin Lynn, Tatyana, and Moira.

Mark Prophet "ascended" (i.e., died) in 1973, and soon after Elizabeth Prophet told me in an aside that strays from the official biography, she was contacted telepathically by "aliens in spacecraft" with evil intentions, as well as by the sinister "Men in Black" often reported harassing witnesses in UFO lore. She regarded this as a "crossroads" in her life, but through faith she rejected the space beings and re-embraced God and the Ascended Masters, and the aliens fled.

Elizabeth Clare Prophet, the official story goes on, changed the name of the Summit Lighthouse to Church Universal and Triumphant and moved herself and her followers to a 218-acre estate near Malibu in 1978 which she named Camelot. In 1981 she married Edward Francis, who had been with the church since 1970. Since 1986 the C.U.T.'s international headquarters has been at a 13,000-acre ranch near Yellowstone, formerly part of Malcolm Forbes's estate and now called the Royal Teton Ranch, in the shadow of a mountain inside of which St. Germaine reportedly keeps the records of all human history. Prophet tours the country regularly and her church runs Montessori schools and adult-literacy programs in communities across the U.S., in addition to spreading the teachings of the Ascended Masters through healings, prayer vigils, and the chanting of "decrees."

Though, like all religious groups, the C.U.T. claims that its set of teachings is the original truth, few doubt that its lineage is more immediately traceable to the Theosophical Society.

Theosophical Foundations

The Theosophical Society or T.S. (Theosophists love initials) was founded in 1875 by another charismatic woman, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky or H.P.B. A fiery-eyed Russian emigre who used to win converts by staging fake apparitions in her "occult room" with tricks like trap-doors and sleights of hand, Blavatsky rode the wave of interest in table-rapping and communication with spirits that was sweeping America and England in the late Victorian period. Although H.P.B. said officially that getting in touch

with discarnate spirits could be a dangerous parlor-game, she nonetheless sacralized the metaphysical views behind spiritist seances through massive, convoluted (and, some assert, plagiarized) tomes like *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine*.

These teachings of the Ascended Masters were issued through an official hierarchy that stretched from Ascended (usually Tibetan or "Aryan") Masters to H.P.B. and her inner circle and eventually to T.S. members around the world. Much of what passes for "New Age" beliefs today—from astral projection, karma, and the transmigration of souls to vibrational frequencies, the Age of Aquarius, auras, and spirit helpers—is from the language of Theosophy.

Despite involvement in progressive issues like Indian independence and women's suffrage (especially under the later leadership of Annie Besant), the Theosophical Society's tone was too authoritarian, Masonic, and—frankly—Aryan for most spiritualists' tastes. Still, no one slighted H.P.B. her genius for creating elaborate cosmologies, worthy of the most imaginative science-fiction.

The Secret Doctrine included a reconstruction of Earth's history, drawing on some Hebrew and Hindu texts and on legends like that of Atlantis. Other information was said to be supplied through letters from discarnate Tibetan adepts, which would appear in hidden places in T.S. higher-ups' homes in psychic deliveries called "apports." The Ascended Masters Koot Hoomi (or Kuthumi) and El Morya supposedly revealed to the T.S. inner circle in the 1880s a sorting out of the existing human races which separated Aryan "white conquerors," with an ancestral homeland in Central Asia, from the variously Semitic, African, and Chinese "fallen, degraded" sub-races.

This kind of anthropology raised fewer eyebrows in the era of Kipling and empire than it does today. Nevertheless, it shows that Theosophy was closer to the strains of occult belief that gave rise to Nazi theology than, for example, to the more benign—even sappy—Spiritualism of drawing rooms and self-improvement pamphlets.

A virtual doctrinal carbon-copy of the old Theosophical Society—even more so than today's T.S., which now looks pretty mainstream, with its sedate headquarters in Wheaton, Illinois, was the Great I AM Movement, which once claimed three million members in the U.S., under the leadership of the charismatic Guy and Edna Ballard, known to their followers as "Daddy" and "Mama." ("I AM" doesn't stand for anything; it refers to "the Mighty I

HER TEACHINGS ARE A MISH-MASH—OR A UNION, IF YOU PREFER—OF WORLD FAITHS, WITH A HEAVY OVERLAY OF THEOSOPHY, THAT PRODUCT OF 19TH-CENTURY BRITISH SPIRITUALISM WHICH INTRODUCED WESTERNERS TO REIN-CARNATION, KARMA, AND "THE NEW AGE."

AM Presence," i.e., God.)

The Ballards added St. Germaine to Theosophy's pantheon, gave Jesus a more prominent role in it, and threw in some original flourishes, some of which today can be found elsewhere only in the C.U.T., such as the ostentatious use of color and the chanting of decrees. (You really have to attend a C.U.T. service yourself—as I did most recently in February 1993 at a hotel on Lake Shore Drive in Hyde Park—to appreciate the hypnotic effect of a throng of the faithful harmonizing a decree like "I AM the Violet Flame" over and over again for half an hour straight.)

The I AM movement collapsed to its present insignificance after the death of Guy Ballard in 1939 and the financial and legal troubles that followed. The only I AM community of any size today is clustered around its sacred site, California's Mt. Shasta (they also have locations in downtown Los Angeles, in Chicago's Loop and near Washington University in St. Louis, MO), although Prophet sometimes takes dictation from the Ballards' now-ascended spirits under the names Beloved Godfre and Beloved Lotus.

The T.S. meets The S.S.

However beloved Daddy and Mama Ballard are nowadays, it has been shown that I AM's American membership overlapped heavily with that of the Silver Legion, which stirred up anti-Semitic activity during the Great Depression through racial violence, hate-literature, and a paramilitary wing whose name, the Silver Shirts, was meant to evoke the Brownshirts then terrorizing Europe.

The Silver Legion's founder, William Dudley Pelley, a well-known sentimental writer of novels and screenplays, had experienced a life-change after a solitary mystical experience in a California bungalow in 1927. This led him to immerse



himself in occult and Theosophical teachings, where he found racial theories that buttressed the anti-Semitism he had cultivated working for Jewish producers in Hollywood.

Pelley's plan to establish a "Christian Commonwealth" in the U.S.—which would "liberate" American Indians from the reservations so that Jews could be settled there—was tabled when he was indicted in 1942 for spreading pro-Axis propaganda. He had also been plotting—telekinetically as well as ballistically—against the supposedly Jewish Franklin D. Roosevelt. When he was released eight years later he founded a less overtly militant organization called Soulcraft.

It is still a matter of interpretation to what extent Pelley's racism was a necessary component of his occult views. At least some of his followers had trouble reconciling the two. To be fair, Theosophical-type occultism and 19th-century-type racism have both long existed in the U.S. and overlap in only a limited number of movements. The I AM movement clearly was one such movement. (I AM literature from the 1930s and 1940s included prayers for the annihilation of strikers and criticism of Hitler for being too left-wing.) The question is to what extent the Summit Lighthouse simply revived the I AM movement in its doctrines and membership rolls, and to what extent the modern Church Universal and Triumphant carries on the Silver Legion's fascist project, if at all.

From Montana to Afghanistan

On the one hand, there are undeniable right-wing components to Elizabeth Clare Prophet's teachings. The book-tables at her appearances often feature the pro-life videotape *Silent Screams* alongside *Autobiography of a Yogi* and *The Lost Teachings of Jesus*. Prophet's support for the Strategic Defense Initiative and the Afghan

resistance has been well publicized; her daughter Erin Lynn has made an album of songs about Afghanistan's rebels, distributed by the Committee for a Free Afghanistan (C.F.A.), an organization connected with Pat Robertson's Heritage Foundation. C.U.T. literature is famous for continuing to emphasize what Prophet sees as the threat from the Soviet Union, which she continued to warn of even after that entity had ceased to exist. And there was more than a slight Red-baiting tone to her predictions of nuclear war three years ago.

An article in the Washington-based watchdog journal *Covert Action Information Bulletin* in 1988 drew an even more direct connection between the C.U.T. and the far right. The author, Sayid Khybar, claims to have documentation demonstrating the C.U.T.'s role in aiding Afghanistan's "contras" during the U.S.-Soviet proxy war there, via the C.F.A. One 1987 letter from the C.F.A.'s Robert Kriegel addresses Prophet as "Mother" and details his recent trip to Pakistan to deliver a letter from her to the Afghan rebel leader.

The former Keeper of the Flame I interviewed, Corey Slavin, now Second Vice-President of the Cult Awareness Network (C.A.N.), declined to comment on the C.U.T.'s possible ties to the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi organizations, and the C.I.A. C.A.N.'s investigations are ongoing. However, the political researcher John Judge claims that the C.U.T. has ties to the World Anti-Communist League, one of the C.F.A.'s sponsors which, according to one former branch leader, was extensively involved with "neo-Nazi, ex-Nazi, fascist, neo-fascist, and anti-Semitic groups."

Even more disturbingly—for me at least—the chairman of the C.U.T.'s Department of Theology, Gene Vosseler, who gave a charming C.U.T. sermon in Hyde Park last February on reincarnation and "soulmates," turns out to be a close associate of David Balsiger, a militant pro-apartheid activist. The two were active in the Ban the Soviets Coalition (as in the 1984 Olympics) and in something called the RAMBO Coalition. Vosseler is also senior advisor to the right-wing Americans for the High Frontier, a pro-Star Wars lobby-group.

Slavin, who is Jewish, recalls rampant anti-Semitism at Royal Teton Ranch. She says secret rituals routinely involved raising the right arm in a Nazi-style salute to a Nordic-looking icon of St. Germaine. The church controlled all sexual and marital choices, Slavin says, and imposed special "purification rituals" to perform before and after

sex. Slavin also thinks "that there's physical abuse that goes on" in the commune's Montessori schools.

Prophet says her followers do not worship her. Slavin says the worship was fanatical when she was at the ranch and that Prophet was regarded as infallible and almighty. Slavin also says members were conditioned to believe that their souls could leave their bodies at night, to visit the hollow Royal Teton Mountain nearby and to consult with Ascended Masters. Slavin now does not believe in astral projection but at the time she thought she was indulging in it regularly and she remembers "visitations" by Lord Lanto, El Morya, and others.

And then there's the matter of the guns. There are disputes as to how heavily armed Royal Teton Ranch is and why. Officially, the C.U.T. has only individually-owned arms in small numbers, for self-defense purposes only. But in 1989 Prophet's husband Edward Francis, a C.U.T. vice-president, was convicted and imprisoned for buying \$100,000 in semiautomatic weapons under a false name. With him at the time of the purchase was a C.U.T. "security chief," Vernon Hamilton. This led federal agents to confiscate from the church \$26,000 in cash and gold and ten World War II-vintage anti-aircraft rifles.

When Prophecy Failed

These P.R. troubles were in the months leading up to the kick-off of Prophet's prophesied karmic "danger period," during which the two superpowers were to engage in all-out nuclear war. Thousands of followers bought space in bomb-shelters, some coming from as far away as Europe and South America to prepare for the cataclysm. Some sold all their possessions or paid up to \$10,000 for a space in a shelter. One former C.U.T. member was awarded \$1.56 million after the U.S. Supreme Court decided that the church had pressured him into handing over his life's savings. Slavin, who paid \$6,500 for her shelter space, describes vividly the situation at Royal Teton Ranch during the run-up to the apocalypse.

Slavin brushes aside Prophet's assertion that she wasn't quite exactly predicting the end of the world, saying there's no other phrase for what the four thousand or more Keepers of the Flame on the Ranch expected to happen. Crowded into underground shelters and heavily armed against the possible influx of less prepared locals once the bombs start falling, Slavin says she and the other members were conditioned by "mind control" to expect a nuclear apocalypse. After seven months,

the C.U.T. faithful were to emerge into a radiation-free Eden to repopulate the planet. In the twenty-four hours leading up to the April 24th doomsday, Keepers of the Flame held a nonstop vigil, praying for the world to end. When it didn't, Prophet announced that their prayers had saved the world and averted disaster. Slavin says the faithful were too brainwashed to notice the contradiction.

Penniless, but her faith still not shaken, Slavin was allowed to return to her native Los Angeles for a time. There, she regained perspective and began the process of trying to understand what had happened to her. In addition to her work with C.A.N., she is now Coordinator of the Maynard Bernstein Resource Center on Cults for the Jewish Federation Council of Los Angeles.

The Aliens of Zion

The end-of-the-world scare made national headlines in 1990. Another current in C.U.T. activity that is less talked about surfaces in Mark Prophet's 1965 book of channeled prehistory, *The Soulless One: Cloning a Counterfeit Creation*. This small paperback tells of the extraterrestrial breeding program that created the human race, in terms that predated by about a decade Erich von Daniken's popularization of the so-called "ancient astronaut" hypothesis with *Chariots of the Gods?* In *The Soulless One* an Ascended Master called Master R warns readers of the small cabal of evil beings that one early genetic experiment produced. These soulless, materialistic would-be world-conquerors live on Earth for the most part undetected. They literally have no souls.

But the whole metaphor is familiar to anyone who has read the anti-Semitic literature of the earlier decades—including that of William Dudley Pelley and including that of one of Pelley's associates, George Hunt Williamson (a.k.a. "His Royal Highness Michel d'Obrenovic-Obilic van Lazar, Duke of Sumadija"). Williamson, a self-styled archaeologist and active I AM and Soulcraft member is the real antecedent of Mark Prophet's scenario of extraterrestrial origins. One of Williamson's books, *UFOs Confidential*, was co-written with John McCoy, a vocal anti-Semite who believed Jewish bankers were keeping the UFO mystery from the public. Eventually, in the 1950s, Williamson took a small group of followers to Peru to start an I AM-style commune called the Brotherhood of the Seven Rays.

The Soulless One is unmistakably influenced by Williamson's 1953 work *Other Tongues—Other Flesh*, which describes in detail the various types of extraterrestrials disguised as

IN THE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LEADING UP TO THE APRIL 24TH DOOMSDAY, KEEPERS OF THE FLAME HELD A NONSTOP VIGIL, PRAYING FOR THE WORLD TO END. WHEN IT DIDN'T, PROPHET ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR PRAYERS HAD SAVED THE WORLD AND AVERTED DISASTER.

humans in present-day society. In addition to the spiritually advanced "Wanderers," whose job it is to "purify" the planet, there are the "Intruders"—the "slop and waste" from Orion—who are described as "small in stature with strange, oriental type eyes," "stubborn," "talkative," "parasitic," "materialistic," and deceitful. "Soon," Williamson promises, "they will be eradicated."

Mark Prophet, likewise, writes in *The Soulless One* of the sinister "non-man" that lives among us. This "counterfeit race" killed Jesus and John the Baptist, he asserts, and "today, as always, they occupy positions of authority and financial power," "seek ever to thwart the pure purposes of God," exert "injudicious use of taxation," and "control [the] entertainment media and the trends of youth," etc. etc. etc. Gee, I wonder who they could be?

Elizabeth Prophet was coy with me about who the "soulless ones" among us are today, although she claims that the Earth is a "crossroads" of visiting and intermarrying extraterrestrials. She turned the discussion to the robotic, slimy bedroom-abductors of the CBS mini-series *Intruders*, but when pressed said that some "soulless ones" live among us in daily life, although they can "earn a divine spark," a soul, in future incarnations through serving God. (This seems disingenuous in light of Slavin's revelation that the C.U.T. teaches that Jews can reincarnate only as Jews because they never learn from their persecutions.)

With talk of aliens and spaceships, we enter the realm of lunacy, some might say. But remember the young widow Elizabeth Prophet's telepathic harassment and her flirtation with Space Brother worship. Note also that a few years ago she hosted a day-long seminar at Royal Teton Ranch with the four most prominent figures in

American UFO research; the Emmy-winning documentarist Linda Moulton Howe, the nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman, the photographic analyst and sometime C.I.A. consultant Dr. Bruce Maccabee, and the best-selling "alien abduction" investigator Budd Hopkins, author of the book *Intruders* on which the CBS series was based. She's also spoken with Zechariah Sitchin, a philologist, anthropologist, and best-selling author of ancient-astronaut books many of whose theories seem to be borrowed wholesale from Williamson. Slavin says Sitchin's books were practically required reading at the ranch.

Both Friedman and Maccabee have told me that Prophet was alert and no-nonsense in her interviews with them and that she surprised them by asking "all the right questions"—this despite Prophet's telling me in February that she was "not really interested" in UFOs and paid little attention to the subject nowadays beyond her admiration for Sitchin's and her husband's books.

The point is not anything to do with UFOs except that Prophet seems ambivalent about the subject, perhaps because it represents a current of C.U.T. theology which she prefers to keep out of the public eye—a current that is anti-Semitic in tone. The fact that Slavin reports a number of the church members at the ranch in 1990 claimed to have had encounters with UFO aliens at various times in their lives thickens the plot. The C.U.T. is informally connected to several "UFO abductee" support-groups. Jacques Vallee's 1979 book, *Messengers of Deception: UFO Contacts and Cults*, makes a fascinating argument that much of what passes for "alien visitation" may be the result of mind-control by the government or other secret organizations. His book has a section on the I AM movement and related "space brother" movements.

Whither the C.U.T.?

Things have clearly changed a lot for the Church Universal and Triumphant lately. The Cold War has ended, and there is little of the apocalypse about its teachings since the big no-show in 1990. Indeed, it sometimes looks on the face of it as if the talk of Great White Brotherhoods and greedy materialist races is no more than the residue of earlier, less tolerant periods of church history, the sort of history that other groups, like Mormons, also face in their public-relations ups and downs. It could be that the C.U.T. nowadays is all about love and harmony, just as its propaganda claims—although Slavin's accounts and the possible links to neo-fascist organizations, if true, suggest otherwise.

A bigger worry for the C.U.T. today is not nuclear fallout but the fallout from the massacre at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. So-called "cults" have not been under such close scrutiny since the Jonestown massacre. The C.U.T. has been churning out press-releases to convince the public that they are not even a "cult" at all.

Recent issues of the *Royal Teton Ranch News* display a desire to portray the C.U.T. as overwhelmingly normal. All of the photos and articles are of country-music shows, hiking trips, vegetarian cook-outs, and crafts-classes—instead of air-raids shelters, healing rituals, channeling sessions, and alien invasions.

Several comparative-religion scholars and cult-awareness groups have been invited to the Montana ranch to see how "mainstream" things are. And even the Ascended Masters themselves are less uniformly Tibeto-Euro-Aryan than in times past. In a kind of divine affirmative-action program, Prophet now takes dictations from a couple Latin American spirits and even a Black Ascended Master named Afra. In Hyde Park in February a surprising number of African-Americans showed up to hear Gene Vosseler give his "stump lecture," and more and more Black faces are appearing in their promotional literature—although the church has refused to give out figures of its ethnic make-up.

Another recent crisis has been the Internal Revenue Service's sudden revocation of the C.U.T.'s tax-exempt status, citing allegations of money-laundering and weapons offenses. On one level, the church's indignation is understandable; however unorthodox Prophet's teachings are, there is no doubt that the C.U.T. is technically a church—especially while trailer-housed Elvis religions and two-family Bible-clubs around the country get to call themselves churches and round-file their tax-forms.

But the C.U.T. has been silent on the obvious political implications of the I.R.S.'s action. Specifically, if indeed the church was, among other things, a front for anti-Soviet gun-running and a crossroads for rightist hate-groups of all stripes, then perhaps the new administration in the White House has decided to let such groups know that the "new order" is less tolerant of the international shenanigans of the Reagan-Bush era.

(Perhaps what happened in Waco was a more extreme example of such a "clean-up job," considering the flimsy charges and unnecessary force with which David Koresh's compound was first stormed—and considering evidence suggesting

that the conflagration that ended the standoff was planned by the Feds. But those speculations are another story.)

The Church Universal and Triumphant may now be in a kind of limbo, eager to shed its fascist past while guarding its very status as a religion from the most left-leaning federal government in nearly half a century. Perhaps Bill Clinton and Janet Reno know more than we do about the clean-up job that needs to be done at the Royal Teton Ranch. Certainly no one has yet gone wrong overestimating the underhandedness and secrecy of the weird American marriage of right-wing politics and religious extremism.

Then again, maybe it's still business as usual at Royal Teton Ranch, with its secret rituals, racism, close social control, and shady political ties. Perhaps there will be another bout of millennialism, and perhaps this time all those guns will be turned on the various groups the C.U.T. has little patience for: leftists, Jews, Russians, pro-choice advocates. And if Prophet dies, her daughter Erin, it is widely believed, is being groomed to take over as Messenger. As the Cold War order crumbles and more former members come forth, we may be learning more about Elizabeth Clare Prophet and the Church Universal and Triumphant.

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The Kecksburg UFO Mystery:

An Interview Excerpt with Stan Gordon

BY G.J. KRUPPEY

With the recent developments in the unraveling of the Roswell cover-up, now would seem to be the time to press for the solution to the many other UFO crash mystery cases, such as the December 1965 Kecksburg incident. While not one of the more high profile UFO cases, it nevertheless remains one of the most intriguing incidents, one which has proven durably controversial, and even divisive, to the community in which it occurred.

What is known of the Kecksburg incident is primarily the work of veteran UFO researcher Stan Gordon, who has been investigating the Kecksburg incident almost since the evening it occurred, not far from his hometown. The following is taken from my soon-to-be published *Steamshovel Press Occasional Paper*, in which I interviewed Stan and several witnesses. The paper's publication is intended to promote interest in the forthcoming 30th Anniversary of the incident, on December 9, 1995.—GJK

On Thursday, December 9, 1965, at about 4:45 PM EST, a bright, fiery object hurtled across the sky above the Great Lakes, leaving a smoky trail in its wake, until it finally came to ground at Kecksburg, Westmoreland County, in southwestern Pennsylvania, about forty miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

The passage of the fiery aerial object was



witnessed by many ground observers in several states, as well as by pilots in flight over Lake Erie. As the object veered southeastward over Pittsburgh, calls reporting sightings of it jammed the phone lines of police, the news media, and the Allegheny County Observatory. Most witnesses thought they were observing a plane going down in flames.

But in Kecksburg, where the object arrived suddenly and made its spectacular landing, the earliest reported eyewitness, a seven year old boy playing outside with his sister, declared that it

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looked like "a star on fire." The children's mother later described "a column of blue smoke rising through the trees" from the woods about a mile away where the object landed, and another "brilliant object" hanging above the tree line and to the left of the smoke column. She described this second object as resembling a "four-pointed star."

Stan Gordon: There were other witnesses in different parts of the village who independently saw the object go down into the woods, and at that time, they heard no sound, but momentarily after it happened, they saw the dust rise and a blue column of smoke go up, and in a matter of minutes it dissipated.

When they saw this thing coming in, by their descriptions, they were not just seeing a fireball or bright meteor. Some of them had this thing pass very close over their heads: it was slow-moving, it was gliding in...it appears to have been a controlled reentry vehicle of some type...it appears that it was purposely trying not to hit the edge of the ridges, to guide itself around those ridges, and was trying to gain altitude. Apparently, it did not gain enough over the last ridge when it crashed.

Whatever it was that came down, the witnesses tell us this thing did not come in at high speed and crash. And if it came in very slow, almost controlled, almost gliding in, that would account probably for the lack of physical evidence at the site. But several witnesses claim that a

On the Thirtieth Anniversary

KECKSBURG!

"Only a few hours after the unidentified falling object was swallowed up by the night-shrouded woods that surrounded the rural village, police and fire units closed down area roads to traffic, and military personnel had arrived to take control of the situation. Eventually, according to witnesses, in the early morning hours, a large, conical object hidden under a tarpaulin was hauled out of the woods on the back of a flatbed truck and urgently rushed away..."

THE KECKSBURG UFO MYSTERY: An Interview with Stan Gordon by G. J. Krupey

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number of trees were knocked down at the impact site.

Not long after the crash, members from many local volunteer fire companies were combing the woods, searching for what was still assumed to be a downed airplane. The state police also arrived, to coordinate the search as well as keep order, as radio and TV news reports of the mysterious object, no longer assumed to be a mere airplane, had drawn crowds of curious onlookers to the site for a glimpse of whatever was nestled in the darkened woods. John Murphy, news director of Greensburg radio station WHJB, was probably one of the first people on the scene, arriving even before the authorities. He witnessed the state police fire marshal, accompanied by an unidentified man carrying a Geiger counter descend into the woods. Upon their return sixteen minutes later, the state police fire marshal ordered the

BY THE TIME WE GOT BACK
DOWN TO THE FIRE HALL, THERE
WAS WALL-TO-WALL MILITARY
EVERYWHERE

woods sealed off.

Murphy knew the fire marshal well, but when he attempted to get information from him as to what he had seen in the woods, he received the reply, "I'm not sure. You better get your information from the army." It was the first indication that Murphy received that there was a military presence at the site.

Murphy phoned the state police barracks at Greensburg, and was informed by the commanding officer there that personnel from the 662nd Radar Squadron, out of the Oakdale Army Support Facility (near what was then the Greater Pittsburgh Airport), were expected to arrive and conduct a briefing. Surprisingly, he invited Murphy to attend.

At the barracks, Murphy found both Army and Air Force personnel present, and was issued an official denial: "The Pennsylvania State Police have made a thorough investigation of the woods. We are convinced there is nothing whatsoever in the woods." Despite this, the military-state police contingent departed for those woods where "nothing whatsoever" occurred, taking Murphy with them.

Murphy was not the only person to make contact with the military that night. Firemen returning from the search found the Kecksburg fire hall had been commandeered by the military, who brought in radio equipment and set up their headquarters within it. The firemen were expelled, and armed guards posted at each entrance. Most of the firemen were delegated to blocking the roads, preventing spectators from entering the area. Others found themselves conveying "the brass" down to the crash site on their trucks.

Jim Romansky encountered the military presence, and something even more disturbing, that night. At the time a nineteen-year old volunteer fireman, he was among the search group who discovered the mystery object. They were standing about the object in amazement when the first representatives of authority arrived...

SAUCER SECTION

Jim Romansky: Two gentlemen came down through the woods; they had overcoats on so you couldn't tell whether they had uniforms on under them or not... One of them did carry a little square box, but at the time I never paid much attention to it.

When they got there, they took one look at the object and they told us that the area was now totally off limits, and was under quarantine, and we must get out of there immediately... So we all started to get out of there, and I know we hadn't gone no more than twenty-five, maybe fifty feet when down from the top of the hill came a whole bunch of military personnel... in uniform, carrying equipment. They passed within five to ten feet of us. Never said a word. They kept going down to the object, and we just kept going out of our area.

By the time we got back down to the fire hall, there was wall-to-wall military everywhere: cars, jeeps, trucks... there was armed guards at the fire hall doors, there was military personnel carrying things in, like radios. But these guys at the door, both of them had rifles... we had no idea whether those weapons were loaded or not, and we weren't about to find out.

Later that night, witnesses saw a military flatbed truck emerge from the woods; lashed on top of it was a large, tarp-shrouded object. Its shape described variously as resembling an upside down acorn, a mushroom, or a bullet.

Emblazoned by flashing lights and escorted fore and aft by other military vehicles, the truck barreled away with its booty, impressing onlookers that it would have mown down anything that dared get in its path. Not long after, "word was passed on to the firemen, and circulated among the crowds, that the search operation was over." Then came the explanation: a fallen meteorite, the "nothing whatsoever" that didn't crash into the woods, and that apparently wasn't hauled away under wraps at high speed, either.

Stan Gordon: We know that once the object left Kecksburg, it arrived at Lockbourne Air Force Base in Columbus, Ohio, for a short stay-over. I know this from a former Air Force security officer who was there. It was backed into a hangar; it was under very, very heavy security. And it was there for a while, then it was taken over to Wright-Patterson [AFB].

We don't know what it really was, that's the

biggest problem. We can't say it was extraterrestrial or it was man-made. It could still swing either way.

The solution to the Kecksburg mystery remains elusive. Was it a case of the military conducting damage control over some embarrassing snafu, or was it retrieving "foreign technology", possibly Soviet, possibly something even more "foreign", like an extraterrestrial craft? The Kecksburg UFO Mystery: An Interview with Stan Gordon delves into these questions as Stan Gordon shares the results of his decades-long investigation into the incident of December 9, 1965 and its aftermath, while Jim Romansky and other witnesses to the events of that night relate what they saw and experienced. Also explored in the paper is the case of John Murphy, the reporter who arrived early enough on the scene to have possibly discovered the object before the firemen or the authorities. The censorship of Murphy's radio news program "Object in the Woods", and Murphy's own mysterious death years later in California are among the most disturbing aspects of the Kecksburg mystery. The government's continuing cover-up of the incident, and its possible relationship to the bizarre feud that developed among Kecksburg residents, even among relatives, that was provoked by a TV show on the Kecksburg incident are also examined. The Kecksburg UFO Mystery does not claim to be the definitive treatment on the subject, but hopefully will be an impetus to further revelations.

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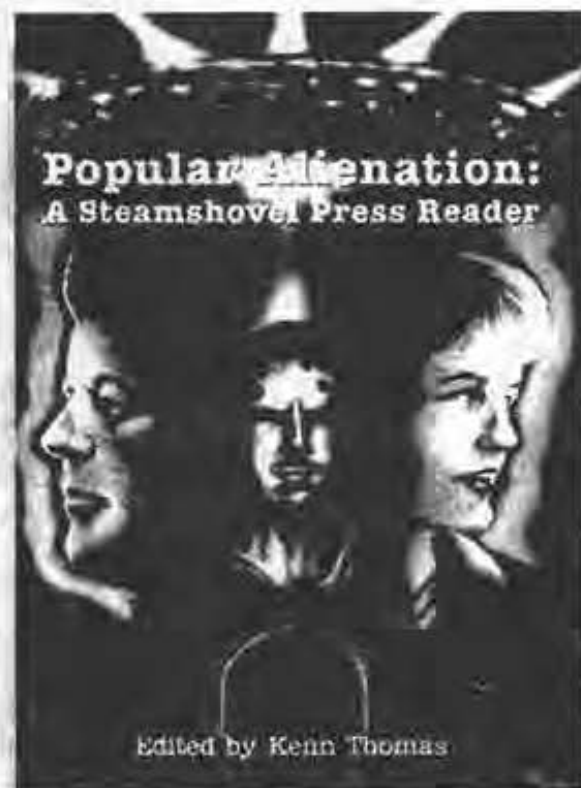
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Virtually Reality: Oklahoma City, Turn Right

BY JIM KEITH

James D. Ellison, the founder of the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord, was speaking to the prosecuting attorney prior to a 1988 trial in which he testified against 14 other rightist militants accused of attempting to overthrow the government — a trial which resulted in the acquittal of all the defendants. It was during this discussion that Ellison talked to Steven N. Snyder about a multiple-group meeting which took place at the Aryan Nations' Hayden Lake, Idaho headquarters in July of 1983.

According to Snyder's account of the conversation with Ellison, late night sessions were held at Hayden Lake in which discussions about the overthrow of the government — or rather, what some term ZOG, the Zionist Occupation Government — took place. *The Turner Diaries*, a futuristic, racist, homophobic fiction by Andrew McDonald (nee William Pierce), was discussed as a blueprint by which this might be accomplished. According to Snyder, plans were hatched for the destruction of federal buildings nation-wide, and for the blowing up of the Dallas office of the Jewish Defense League.

According to the *New York Times*, *The Turner Diaries* was Timothy McVeigh's "favorite book," which he "pressed... on friends and acquaintances." (1) A look at the *Turner Diaries* makes one wonder if, in fact, the book was not used as an explicit design for the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building, and if there is not a larger battle plan of which the Oklahoma City bombing was the first "shot fired".

Relevant quotes from the book follow:

"September 16, 1991. Today it finally began! After all these years of talking — and nothing but talking — we have finally taken our first action. We are at war with the System, and it is no longer a war of words..."

"As carefully as we could, we calculated that we should have at least 10,000 pounds of TNT or an equivalent explosive to destroy a substantial por-

A LOOK AT THE TURNER DIARIES MAKES ONE WONDER IF, IN FACT, THE BOOK WAS NOT USED AS AN EXPLICIT DESIGN FOR THE BOMBING OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY FEDERAL BUILDING, AND IF THERE IS NOT A LARGER BATTLE PLAN OF WHICH THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING WAS THE FIRST "SHOT FIRED"

tion of the building... Instead, what we have is a little under 5,000 pounds, and nearly all of that is ammonium nitrate fertilizer, which is much less effective than TNT for our purpose...

"We can wreak havoc in all the offices with windows opening on the courtyard, but we cannot hope to blow away the inner facade of the building or to punch through the sub-basement where the computers are. Several hundred people will be killed, but the machine will probably keep running..."

"October 13, 1991. At 9:15 yesterday morning our bomb went off in the FBI's national headquarters building. Our worries about the relatively small size of the bomb were unfounded; the damage was immense..."

"My day's work started a little before five o'clock yesterday, when I began helping Ed Sanders mix heating oil with the ammonium nitrate fertilizer..."

"Meanwhile, George and Henry were out stealing a truck. With only two-and-a-half tons of explosives, we didn't need a big tractor-trailer rig, so we had decided to grab a delivery truck belonging to an office-supply firm..."

"We were still two blocks away when the pavement shuddered violently under our feet. An instant later the blast wave hit us — a deafening "ka-whoomp," followed by an enormous roaring, crashing sound, accentuated by the higher-pitched noise of shattering glass all around us..."

"We ran the final two blocks and were dismayed to see what, at first glance, appeared to be an entirely

intact FBI headquarters — except, of course, that most of the windows were missing... Dense, choking smoke was pouring from the ramp leading to the basement...

"Dozens of people were scurrying around the freight entrance to the central courtyard, some going in and some coming out. Many were bleeding profusely from cuts, and all had expressions of shock or dazed disbelief on their faces..." (2)

Evidence linking Timothy McVeigh and the bombing that actually took place at Oklahoma City with the group that met at Hayden Lake, Idaho is extensive, factual, and discussed almost not at all in the mainstream media. Ellison's CSA had "built a relationship" with Reverend Robert Millar of Elohim City, an Adair, Oklahoma Christian Identity conclave with about 100 members, along with other rightist groups such as the Silent Brotherhood of Robert Matthews. (3) Reverend Millar visited the Aryan Nations community, knows James Ellison, and was in close touch with Richard Wayne Snell, who apparently had advance information that the Oklahoma City bombing was about to take place. (4) Ellison, released from parole on April 20, 1995, coincidentally or not the day after the bombing, was last seen that day in Jasper, Florida, in the company of two women, driving a car with Oklahoma license plates. (5)

According to Snyder, James Ellison stated, "on one of the trips when I was with Wayne [CSA member Richard Wayne Snell], he took me to some of the buildings and asked me to go in the building and check the building out. That kind of thing." Snyder says that Ellison had told him that at the request of Snell he had gone into the federal building in Oklahoma to see what it would take to destroy the building.

Snell bore a grudge against persons in the Oklahoma Federal Building, according to Snyder. "Ellison said that Snell was bitter toward the government because of the IRS, and I think these were agents from the Oklahoma City office, and they had taken him to court, and his property had been seized by the FBI and other agents in a raid." (6)

Snell allegedly took part in a number of illegal activities in tandem with other individuals in the Aryan Nations/CSA/Silent Brotherhood orbit. He and CSA elder William Thomas are said to have bombed a natural gas pipeline near Fulton, Arkansas on November 2, 1983. They mistakenly believed that the pipeline was a major conduit from Gulf of Mexico gas fields to Chicago. Later in

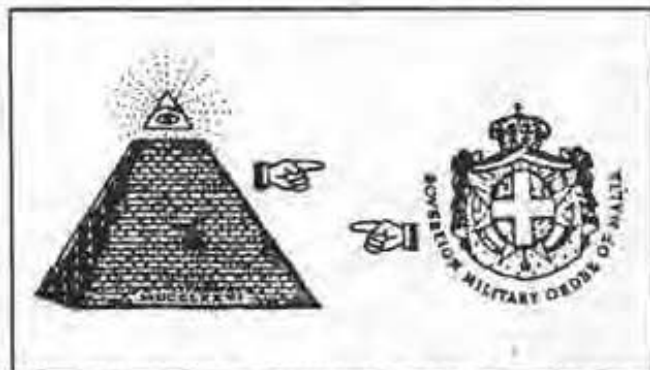
the same month they attempted to bomb a major electrical transmission line.

On November 11, 1983 Snell, Thomas, and CSA member Steve Scott held up a pawnshop in Texarkana, Arkansas. It is alleged that Snell, believing the owner of the shop, William Stumpp, to be Jewish, murdered him by pistol shot. Snell, according to published reports, was mistaken.

On June 30, 1984, Snell was stopped — apparently in a routine traffic stop — by a State Trooper outside De Queen, Arkansas. Snell emerged from the car — in the manner that one might reasonably expect Timothy McVeigh to have done in Perry, Oklahoma — and shot the trooper dead. Later that day Snell was captured in Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and a gun was found in his car which is alleged to have been the one used in the murder of William Stumpp. I find it quite curious that Snell would have held on to this incriminating weapon, a fact which lends credence to Snell's protestations of being framed by the police. After his capture, Snell is alleged to have maintained that, like McVeigh, he was a "prisoner of war." (7)

Snell's defense of the killing of the state trooper was that, "we were justified in doing so, as

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we feared for our life, and self-defense is an inalienable right. Right?... Needless to say, I failed to convince the jury and was convicted of Capital Murder. This successfully made this writer a victim, as you will see. Not dead — yet. Just live in a Tomb.

"Never have we felt animosity toward those men and women who sat in judgement. They were uninformed and too naive to relate to the evil described. (Calling one "naive" is not derogatory, as it is one of the traits of honest people.). Time does pass, people do learn, and in light of what has transpired the past decade, I would be happy to have these same people sit in judgement again. This time I feel they would relate to evidence presented and return a verdict of Not Guilty." (8)

More information substantiating the possible Hayden Lake/Snell connection to the Oklahoma bombing were statements such as the following, in Taking Aim, the Militia of Montana newsletter, pointing out the significance of the April 19th date:

"If this date does not ring a bell for you then maybe this will jog your memory. 1. April 19, 1775: Lexington burned; 2. April 19, 1943: Warsaw burned; 3. April 19, 1992: The fed's attempted to raid Randy Weaver, but had their plans thwarted when concerned citizens arrived on the scene with supplies for the Weaver family totally unaware of what was to take place; 4. April 19, 1993: The Branch Davidians burned; 5. April 19, 1995: [convicted murderer] Richard Snell will be executed — unless we act now!" (9)

Clinton crony Governor Jim Guy Tucker of Arkansas determined the date of Snell's execution on March 9, 1995, and Snell was put to death by lethal injection on April 19, 1995, the day of the Oklahoma City bombing. The patriarch of Elohim City, Reverend Robert Millar, was with Snell for the last three hours prior to his execution, observed the execution, and brought Snell's body back to Elohim City to be buried there.

Although Reverend Millar denies ever meeting Timothy McVeigh, the accused bomber knew of Elohim City and, according to sources in the government quoted by the *New York Times*, may have visited the compound. (10) Although no other record of a visit by McVeigh to Elohim City has been located, he was stopped for a traffic violation about 20 miles from the compound and, according to federal officials, telephone records show that

ALTHOUGH NO OTHER RECORD OF A VISIT BY McVEIGH TO ELOHIM CITY HAS BEEN LOCATED, HE WAS STOPPED FOR A TRAFFIC VIOLATION ABOUT 20 MILES FROM THE COMPOUND AND, ACCORDING TO FEDERAL OFFICIALS, TELEPHONE RECORDS SHOW THAT McVEIGH CALLED ELOHIM CITY ON APRIL 16, AS WELL AS FOUR MINUTES AFTER RESERVING THE RYDER TRUCK ALLEGEDLY EMPLOYED IN THE BOMBING. IT IS NOT PLAIN TO ME HOW OFFICIALS KNOW THAT IT WAS McVEIGH MADE THE TELEPHONE CALL. WAS THE RYDER TRUCK AGENCY UNDER SURVEILLANCE AT THE TIME OF THE RENTING OF THE TRUCK? CERTAINLY, A CONVENIENT PHONE CALL TO ELOHIM CITY WOULD BE PERFECT IF SOMEONE WAS ATTEMPTING TO LINK McVEIGH TO THE RADICAL RIGHT

McVeigh called Elohim City on April 16, as well as four minutes after reserving the Ryder truck allegedly employed in the bombing. It is not plain to me how officials know that it was McVeigh made the telephone call. Was the Ryder truck agency under surveillance at the time of the renting of the truck? Certainly, a convenient phone call to Elohim City would be perfect if someone was attempting to link McVeigh to the radical right, while phoning collaborators or even allies would seemingly be the last thing that one would do if intent on the commission of the crime. (11)

Based upon statements that Snell made to jailors and fellow prisoners, he apparently knew about the bombing planned for Oklahoma City prior to it happening. Alan Ables, a spokesman for the Arkansas Department of Corrections, says that Snell repeatedly told prison guards as well as Reverend Millar about a bombing that was going to take place. "He said there was going to be a huge bombing, and not much more than that," Ables has stated. "He didn't give any impression that it

would be a domestic bombing or something overseas. Just that there would be some confusion as to who did it and the United States was going to blame someone in the Mideast." Ables also said that, "He commented at least once (in his last week) that he wished he wasn't leaving; he'd like to stick around a few more weeks because he wanted to watch what was going to happen" in regards to the bombing. Guards observed that Snell was "smiling and chuckling" as he viewed news about the Oklahoma City bombing on the day of his execution. (12)

Snell's last words are said to have been, "Governor Tucker, look over your shoulder. Justice is on the way. I wouldn't trade places with you or any of your political cronies. Hell has victory. I am at peace." (13)

The Silent Brotherhood, a group closely connected with the CSA and some of whose members were present at Hayden Lake in 1983, was infiltrated by FBI informant Thomas Martinez, who later testified against members of the group.

There were rumors within the Aryan Nations and associated groups that Bob Matthews, the leader of the Silent Brotherhood, was an *agent provocateur* for the FBI. Those rumors have never been substantiated, although it is known that Matthews did have a cousin who worked for the FBI in Washington. (14)

It is suspicious that the "second in command" in the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord, Terry Noble served only a two-year sentence. According to the *Miami Herald*, "After getting busted, he underwent profound changes in attitude, renouncing extremism and cooperating with his prosecutors." But the most remarkable thing is that after his release from prison, Noble was hired by the FBI — reportedly as a negotiator with right wing groups. (15)

Members of the Silent Brotherhood are reported to be living in southern Missouri, on a 160-acre parcel purchased with funds stolen by armored car robberies. Although the physical location of the camp is suggestive, it is not known whether Terry Nichols or Timothy McVeigh were in contact with members of the group. (16)

Untangling intentions and plans whose effects spread out from the Hayden Lake, Idaho meeting is complicated and speculative, but the above facts show that Timothy McVeigh was moved by currents that originated there, and possibly collaborated with their creators — through discussion or more — in the commission of the bombing. So, the answer is perfectly apparent. It was a group of right-wing radicals who were responsible for the

bombing of the federal building — and they may have had controllers in the FBI.

If only the answer was so simple.

Jim Keith is the author of *Black Helicopters Over America*, available for \$12.95 plus \$2 postage and handling from IllumiNet Press, 1-800-680-INET. The above article is excerpted from Keith's forthcoming book on the Oklahoma City bombing.

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The MADE Manifesto

BY ROY LISKER

Although it has apparently received very little attention from any of the popular, grass-roots or establishment political organizations working in the civil rights arena, discrimination on the basis of education is one of the major civil rights issues of our time. It is a blatant form of discrimination lying at the root of much economic injustice in this society. Directly or indirectly, it constitutes an enormous social evil that affects us all.

Historically the strategies of the traditional civil rights organizations in this country have been directed to obtaining either: (i) Improving the schools of their political constituencies; (ii) Getting their constituencies into other schools; the bussing experiments, the Equal Opportunity programs, Affirmative Action, etc.

It is perhaps owing to the fact that so much energy is being concentrated in this direction that no one pays much attention to an issue of equal, and potentially even greater, importance:

The right of individuals without BAs, MAs, or PhDs, or even an official high school education, to compete on equal terms with persons who have these degrees, on the basis of their qualifications, experiences, knowledge, ability and job record alone.

Consider these items:

1. The laws permit any enterprise to place the demand for a BA, a Master's Degree or even a PhD at the top of the list of qualifications for many if not all of its jobs, before the consideration of any other qualification. This is an outrageous violation of civil rights, at about the same level as that of refusing work to persons because of their skin color, gender, nationality, age, etc. I am only amazed that this point is rarely raised in the public arena.

2. This is overwhelmingly the case for jobs within the school system or the academic world: schools are free to demand certificates at whatever levels they wish even before interviewing a teaching candidate. Mozart himself, who received all of his training from his father, would today be required to produce a PhD in music to teach composition in our colleges. One might raise the objection that this example is so elitist that it represents only a tiny fraction of the group of persons looking for jobs in education.

I therefore provide an example which has real significance to our own times: The art of jazz music was developed in the early part of this century by poor musicians working in night clubs and brothels in New Orleans. Their creative energy and imagination gave us an indigenous artistic medium that, for the first time in history (even though music is in some sense a universal language) is listened to and appreciated by most of the human race. Yet persons who teach music in the schools, whether jazz or classical, must have degrees that the persons who created jazz could never have hoped to obtain. Most musicians would concur with my opinion that the "jazz studies" offered in most colleges and universities have very little to do with the living art form.

3. One finds people everywhere who possess an exceptional competence for many different kinds of work, including teaching, the arts, medical skills, scientific knowledge, indeed just about any kind of skilled profession. Without even a murmur of protest, many of these have given up the search for the positions for which they are qualified, merely because they don't have, can't get, or for reasons of pride refuse to stoop to the indignity of, getting a certificate from a certification system for which they rightly feel contempt.

4. At the same time there are many so called unskilled trades, such as house-painting, carpentry, fruit-picking, even lawn-mowing, that require knowledge, experience and intelligence, yet the people who work at them, and do a very good job, are disparaged because no college or university has told the world that their unique skill is a form of higher knowledge. Perhaps we ought to be grateful for this much: for if the day comes that even an "unskilled laborer" needs a degree to get a job, we will all be in trouble!

5. Anyone claiming to have these "higher" forms of knowledge, but doesn't have an appropriate degree from an accredited university to back up such claims, is generally assumed to be a fraud. Yet the truth is that a disturbingly large percentage of persons with the right degrees are incompetent within their professions. In certain occupations persons without the degrees may often be even more competent, because the time and energy they invested in the invention and development of their abilities gave them insights into dealing with problems that were not learned by persons hitting the textbooks in the schools.

This is a serious civil rights issue. It is manifestly illegitimate that the government uphold and protect the existence of a mandarin class in any democracy.

If a mass movement were to be organized around these issues, the following things would happen:

1. Thousands of people who have believed up to now that they had no hope of finding work compatible with their abilities, would start militating, organizing, participating in marches and demonstrations, setting up test cases in the courts, committing civil disobedience and going to jail.

2. The liberal academics, proud of themselves as "champions of civilization", would bare their fangs, showing themselves to the whole world as exactly what they are: benefactors of an obscene structure of privilege, status and caste. Many of these venerated teachers are nothing more than mediocre functionaries, and it is they who will stoop to any baseness to protect the lies that keep them respectable, secure and pensionable. However there are also many idealists among them, who will lend support, even going so far as to quit the system, although this might turn them into social pariahs until the movement achieves its goals.

And the movement must triumph.

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There are at least four reasons for my saying this; others can no doubt add several more:

1. The pragmatic business world only really wants dependable performance, and has little time for rubbish about credentials. If enough persons without credentials are given the chance to show that they can perform better than those who have them, the corporations will throw their weight behind the movement against discrimination by education.

2. Once the minorities, of which the United States citizens descended from the victims of the African slave trade are the best organized, realize that they have been misdirecting their energies towards getting degrees, rather than developing their natural abilities and gifts based on their unique experience, they will restructure their movements to incorporate these same demands. Other ethnic groups, people without enough money, women, the elderly, all kinds of people who for a host of reasons could not afford or did not have the time to waste getting an "official" education, will militate to have their work qualifications recognized on their merits, on the basis of their resume and experience.

Indeed, the entire civil rights movement would incorporate these issues into the list of its basic demands.

3. At a certain point the Movement Against Discrimination in Education would attract the attention of the media. Experienced editors and reporters have always been annoyed by these green, self-satisfied college graduates who arrive at their doorsteps with their freshly minted PhDs in Journalism, or Communications Science, or Media Technology, but who don't know a thing about the problems involved in covering real news. The newspapers and media organs will start slanting their reporting - using the crude, obnoxious methods for which they are known (!) - in favor of the activities of M.A.D.E. and against the academics.

4. Even the schools would eventually see that it is to their benefit to develop a kind of education that can stand on its own merits, rather than pandering to the arrantly undemocratic, unconstitutional worship of an official scrap of parchment.

Roy Lisker, M.A.D.E., 12 Frazier Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457.



Caries, Cabals and Correspondence

Letters From Readers

Send all correspondence to: Steamshovel Press, POB 23715, St. Louis, MO 63121. Steamshovel encourages writers to submit letters in electronic form, preferably in IBM ASCII, but all formats are welcome.

Allow me to quote you just a small sample of the sage-like wisdom of Mr. Glenn Campbell:

"I think that Las Vegas should be destroyed with nuclear weapons..." —Groom Lake Desert Rat Newsletter

"I apologize...for saying that Las Vegas should be destroyed with nuclear weapons...I now think that New York City should be nuked..." —Groom Lake Desert Rat Newsletter

Campbell: "I came out here [to Rachel, Nevada] because I saw the video of the base (Groom Lake) shot by Sean Morton, and he guaranteed people that we could see UFOs out here any day of the week..."

Morton: "Glenn, you just got out here a day late and a dollar short. Most of the UFO stuff got moved when the public attention heated up in late '93. I stopped coming out cause there was just nothing to see!"

Campbell: "Yeah...Well I've been in the same valley at the same time when Sean saw UFOs and I didn't"

Morton: "That's not true..."

—Exchange on the *Montel Williams Show*

"I don't see how UFOs could possibly fly when they don't even have wings." —Glenn Campbell on the *Larry King Show*

As a long time fan and subscriber to *Steamshovel Press*, I was disappointed to see an interview with this rather sad, lonely individual ("A Lineman For Lincoln County," *SP12*). I mean if you wanted the "Party Line" that nothing more was going on at Area 51 other than secret aircraft testing, or the burning of toxic materials, you should have just talked to the PR officer at Nellis AFB, or picked up the Establishment's technology tabloid, *Popular Science*.

Steamshovel is exciting for giving vent to the other side of the story, and as a leader in Conspiratorial Theory you should have asked questions like, "Why is this man here?", "Where does he come from?", "What purpose does he



serve?", "What exactly is his message?", "Why, in a town used to eccentrics, does the entire population want him tarred and feathered?" "Does the *agent provocateur* premise apply here?"

I first met Glenn Campbell when he had just blown into town at Rachel, Nevada's "Little A'Le'Inn". He bought me lunch and I cordially answered his questions about what I felt was going on at the Area 51 facility. We got out maps and I patiently showed him the military boundaries, the viewing area of the base which I had discovered in May of 1992, and the mountain top which he now calls "Freedom Ridge", and has become the obsessive focal point of his life. I did what I could and would do for anyone, with a genuine curiosity about this mystery.

It's a fact that in the media of 999 people see something and one blind man doesn't, the blind man will get just as much coverage, and his word will carry as much weight as the 999. Maybe Campbell felt that this was the best strategy to leech onto his fleeting 15 minutes of fame. There has yet to be a camera out there that he hasn't thrown himself in front of. Feeling he could make a quick buck by knocking down people who had done research and taken the risks so he and his cronies could peer down the base from picnic tables and deck chairs, he went on to call me a "moron" in his self-published *Area 51 Viewers Guide*. Everybody that went out to the sight with me he described as my "mindless minions", which I assume would include Kenn Thomas.

Joe and Pat Travis, the owners of the Rachel bar, also made the mistake of befriending

this man who has never repaid money he has borrowed from them and who he has gone on to call "yokels", "hicks" and "fools."

If this was just about a difference of opinion. Hey! I love a good debate! But Campbell's twisted psyche, or should I call him "The Glenn Campbell", as he always refers to himself in his newsletter, like some megalomaniac all star wrestler, or as "the PSYCHO spy", but Campbell says that I am "...his arch nemesis! The embodiment of evil" and I am always at the top of his "Death List". I ride in esteemed company.

Others he calls "truly evil" are Bob Lazar, Gene Huff, George Knapp, John Lear, Gary Schultz, Norio Hiwakawa, Anthony Hilder, Bill Cooper, Joe and Pat Travis including all who live in Rachel...in fact, everyone who believes that there might be some extraterrestrial origin to what was going on at the Groom test. Sight he feels are "the evil spawn of Satan" and have made his "Hate List" of enemies. This is a well adjusted individual? He counts among his heroes and friends such debunking cranks as Philip Klass and Russ Estes.

There is an old Irish saying that goes: "To be cursed by the devils is a blessing indeed!" So I find myself truly sainted.

I laughed out loud when I read his quote: "...I'm looking for things that are alien that are probably beyond our current knowledge, that doesn't mean you can abandon the scientific method." Who-ha! That's a good one! He constantly ignores and conveniently avoids hundreds of eye-witness testimonies and video tapes that don't fit into his incessant "it's just the military" bleating.

He continues to call me a liar when my sighting have been backed up by video taped proof and similar eyewitness accounts. Maybe he forgets that on the self same tape he claims to have seen on the *Montel Williams Show* I showed that the much ballyhooed "Old Faithful", which appears every morning in the sky at 4:50 AM was merely some kind of landing plane...but on many other occasions it wasn't and jumped wildly back and forth, witnessed by myself and others and filmed by Norio Hiwakawa.

It was also on this same show, thanks to my direction and urging of the producers, that they received a letter back from the military admitting for the first time that the Groom lake facility *did in fact exist*. This should help Glenn in his upcoming court case. (You're welcome!)

Campbell says that I would "...charge \$99 and point to the landing lights of commuter jets and call them saucers..." This is patently absurd! I

"IT'S A FACT THAT IN THE MEDIA IF 999 PEOPLE SEE SOMETHING AND ONE BLIND MAN DOESN'T, THE BLIND MAN WILL GET JUST AS MUCH COVERAGE, AND HIS WORD WILL CARRY AS MUCH WEIGHT AS THE 999."

thank you Kenn for defending me. You at least have been out there with me, whereas Campbell has not. I live by the LA airport so I should know the difference between UFOs and landing lights! Everyone in my groups carry high-powered binoculars, and far from being my "mindless minions" I think they could judge for themselves what was what.

I started taking the tours because so many people insisted on going. The \$99 paid for a van (at \$160 a day and .39 cents a mile), gas, firewood, equipment and meals. I limited the groups to eight, and took them on a 14 mile hike up and back to the peak to look down on the base and then dealt with the sheriff when we got down. You can't even take a bus to Vegas from LA round trip for less than that. Suffice it to say I didn't break even, and I stopped going for one reason...by late 1993 we simply weren't seeing anything, and my excellent sources told me that everything had been moved to Tucson and Maryland.

It is also ironic to have Campbell accuse me of profiteering from Area 51 by taking tours there, while he has now based his entire livelihood and income on doing the same thing with his tours and catalog and newsletter and patches, ad nauseam! Somebody is paying for his smear spot on the Internet!

It was all very exciting while it lasted, but unlike the individual you cover in your piece...I have a life.

Please remember that until I let the cat out of the bag about the location of the peak that looked down on the facility, I was one of a handful of people who had actually seen the base without having worked there. So when I spoke with men who claimed to be scientists, or workers or guards, all of whom confirmed some kind of alien presence or backing of the technology going on there, all I

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had to do was ask them to tell me what the base looked like and how it was laid out to test their veracity, because I had the place on film.

So Glenn Campbell can go on calling me a liar and fake or "evil" if it suits his peculiar neurosis to knock down everybody who took the risks and did the work long before this person came along to base his life on and live in the shadow of the deeds of others, whom he gives no credit or due. He can even go on claiming that he "shooed me away" from going out to the test site, but I stopped going when there was nothing left to see...which is just about when Glenn showed up to trumpet, against all available evidence, that there had never been anything there at all.

So next time you see him in print or grumbling on some TV show somewhere, just think about a crazy little man who shows up at the barn with the doors wide open and the cows all gone, squealing at the top of his lungs that he has been tricked...and that because he hasn't seen any, bovines must not exist.

Thanks for your time, and keep up the excellent work!

Peace!

Sean Morton

c/o 2629 Manhattan Avenue, Suite
#210

Hermosa Beach, California Republic

There is nothing "New" about the "New World Order"! They are "The International Bar-Lawyers" of London, England, via the American Lawyer-Bar of Chicago, Illinois, via each of its fifty subordinate State Bar-Lawyer groups, via their local individual members holding "Title of Nobility" "Lawyer" and a "member number" which they lie and refer to as a "License" (which it is not). Not all "lawyers" belong to the "association", but they are "admitted".

They have "taken over" each and every government, and political party, local, state, Federal, and National (all branches of it) the world over. Throughout all human recorded history, throughout all Wars, regardless who Won or Lost, or which real estate changed hands, or what "type" of government (Kingdom, Democracy, Republic, Socialist Soviet Communist, etc.), the People "think" they lived under, the Lawyers controlled the "courts" with their "code" language, under "presumption" that everyone in the world is a "subject" to their Code, and "Debtor" to their (behind the scenes) Master—the "World Money Renters" (Morgan, Rothschild, Mellon, Rockefeller, Loeb, Warburg, Bilderberg, Krupp, etc.) [they meet every six

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"SP BLEW MY MIND!"

months at a Castle in Switzerland, and decide where the next "War" will be so they can make profit while the Christians (and other non Zionists) exterminate themselves]. They control all political groups (Parties) and candidates through these "Lawyers", so it matters not which candidate "Wins" the "rigged" elections. The World over.

David S. DeRiemer
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Re: Prouty's identification of Edward Lansdale ("JFK Redux: Can Anyone Verify Fletcher Prouty's ID of Lansdale and Conein in Dealey Plaza?" by Jack White, SP11) and the picture of his ear: [bibliographic note attached] Alfred V. Iannarelli, *The Iannarelli System of Ear Identification* (New York: The Foundation Press, 1964).

Robin Ramsay
Lobster
UK

Steamshovel Debris: *Steamshovel Press* has been unable to locate this book and asks the readers for help.

A recent issue of your publication carried an article titled "A Newly Declassified Document on Wilhelm Reich."

Please be advised that in an article of mine, titled "Reich and the INS: A Specific Plague Reaction" published in the *Journal of Orgonomy* of November 1983 (Vol. 17, No. 2) this document is mentioned and extensively quoted from. Thus your introductory statement about recent "declassification procedure that led to this new look at a day in Reich's career" is erroneous and misinformed.

I trust that in the interest of truth and accuracy you will acknowledge this error in a future issue of your publication.

I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of any such acknowledgment and rectification that may appear in *Steamshovel Press*.

Maybe I managed to get the document in question while it was still classified because I actually went down to the INS building in New York

City and spent hours going through the files on Reich, and perhaps they released this document to me without realizing that it hadn't been declassified.

A new, enlarged edition of my book on Reich's legal troubles (*Steamshovel Debris*: the classic, *Wilhelm Reich Vs. The USA*) won't - alas! - be coming out in the U.S., but it will be coming out in several European countries.

It will be issued in Germany by Zweitausendeins Press (Postfach 1326 D-24319 Lütjenburg, Germany). This outfit is issuing a number of Reich's seminal books at the same time as mine will be coming out. It was supposed to have been in February, but they didn't like the translation, so they had to do it over and it should be coming out any day now. I have no idea what the price would be...Maybe by this time the books by Reich have already been issued.

Cordially,

Jerome Greenfield
Associate Professor of English
The College At New Paltz
New Paltz, NY

I recently picked up my first issue of *Steamshovel Press*, #12. Wow! I've always been attracted by fringe mags—mostly left, an occasional right, for balance. SP blew my mind! I read it cover-to-cover, including ads.

Perhaps the most profound thing I read in SP12 was in the first article, "Conspiracy Phobia," by Michael Parenti: "Those who suffer from conspiracy phobia are fond of saying: 'Do you actually think there's a group of people sitting around in a room plotting things?'" How many times have I said those exact words, discussing history, current events and the future with my partner?! Too many, I'm ashamed to admit. I'm also not proud of the fact that I had never heard of the Gemstone Files prior to reading SP12, and I'm still not sure I know what they are. I found the detailed scientific analysis of the Shroud of Turin somewhat confounding as well. Who cares? It was still fascinating, absorbing.

My mind is opening up but my brains remain intact—for now.

Kate Hickman
Indianapolis, IN

Being aware of the general flavor of *Steamshovel Press*, I was pleased that your review of my book, *Pictures of the Pain: Photography and the*

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Assassination of President Kennedy, was as generous as it was. I do, however, want to comment upon one of your criticisms which I do find wanting.

Your comment about my "...weird mix of brilliant technical detail and lousy assassination history..." as exemplified by the so-called "Wink" photo is stretching your point. It is true that I have heard of this frame from the Johnson swearing-in sequence as being referred to by some as a dastardly sign - what with Representative Albert Thomas winking in apparent dark conspiracy at the new President. I've wondered if these same people also interpret Mrs. Johnson's smile and Mrs. Kennedy's not sad look as seen in this frame to also include them in on the conspiracy.

The reviewer might see onerous implications in the content of this photo, but contrary to the review's statement, David Lifton did not directly or indirectly make anything of this particular picture in the text of his book, *Best Evidence*. Thomas is not even included in the index. A mention is made only within the caption to six of the swearing-in photos reproduced in the book. The caption neutrally states in part: "Then Johnson

turns to his wife, looks up, and gets a wink and a smile from Congressman Thomas."

Sometimes a wink is just a wink! It can just as easily be interpreted as a making of contact with another as a gesture of good luck, or as a sign of empathy, or other such non-conspiracy possibility. I suspect, but can not prove, that someone saw in this negative what they thought might be construed by others as an inappropriate gesture



given the morbid nature of the circumstances surrounding the swearing-in, and an attempt was made to get rid of the negative. Prints however obviously do exist of this negative as is readily seen on your most recent magazine cover. It should also be noted that another non-controversial negative from the swearing-in sequence, this made with the Hasselblad camera, is also missing.

To so prominently note this so-called controversial negative as a weakness in my text actually gives me satisfaction that my text is indeed strong on the more critical areas covered.

Also contrary to what was mentioned in the review, I do indeed cover Jim Murray as well as William Allen in the text as regards if they saw any projectiles on the grass infield area. They both answered in the negative.

Thank you for your review of my book. I appreciate your efforts.

*Richard Trask
Danvers, MA*

I do take serious issue with your suggestion that "the book (*Final Judgement: The Missing Link in the JFK Assassination Conspiracy*, reviewed in SP11) cannot be read, however, without trying to identify the fine line between of an anti-Israel/anti-Zionist critique with old-fashioned anti-Semitism." I really don't know where you get off saying that.

I hasten to point out that of my three major sources on the conflict between JFK and Israel, two of them—Stephen Green and Seymour Hersh—happen to be Jewish. That fact doesn't matter to me, but it may mean something to those who are worried about "anti-Semitism." Both of these chaps are confirmed "liberals." Likewise with my third source, Andrew Cockburn. No raving "Nazi." I'm sure you'll agree.

Frankly, I was very careful not to cite any

"anti-Semitic" sources (nor, for that matter, did I rely on any such sources) in writing the book. What's more, for the information of those who have not read the book, I have never suggested that is utter nonsense and I do believe that this was implied in your review. I will not waste my breath denying that I am anti-Semitic since no matter how much I deny it, it will only make me appear so.

For your information both Mark Lane (yes, that Mark Lane) and Alfred Lilienthal, the noted critic of Israel (and yes, they're both Jewish) read the book prior to publication. Neither found it "anti-Semitic."

Which brings me to my other point: when will SP publish my critique of Dave Emory's "the Nazis killed JFK" nonsense in the context of my allegation that, quite the contrary, it was the Israeli Mossad which was responsible?

I hate to spoil the party, but Permindex (of which Clay Shaw was a board member) was not a "Nazi front" but an Israeli front with multiple links to the Mossad and the Meyer Lansky Crime Syndicate. And that ain't Nazi.

Is SP afraid of any conspiracy that smells of the Mossad? I thought you guys had some guts or is it simply a matter of keeping newsstand distribution (which I certainly understand)?

And, oh, by the way, did you know that Oliver Stone's chief financial backer for JFK was Arnon Milchan, described by Alexander Cockburn in *The Nation* as "Israel's biggest arms dealer." (Whoops!) That ought to give you conspiracy nuts something to chew on.

Michael Collins Piper
Washington, DC

My friend turned me onto *Steamshovel Press* a bit more than a year ago, and I was very impressed, and also filled up with bile from this country's murderous mischief and false tomfoolery, the kind that makes folks dead.

Untrustingly,

Chris Koestner
Levittown, NY

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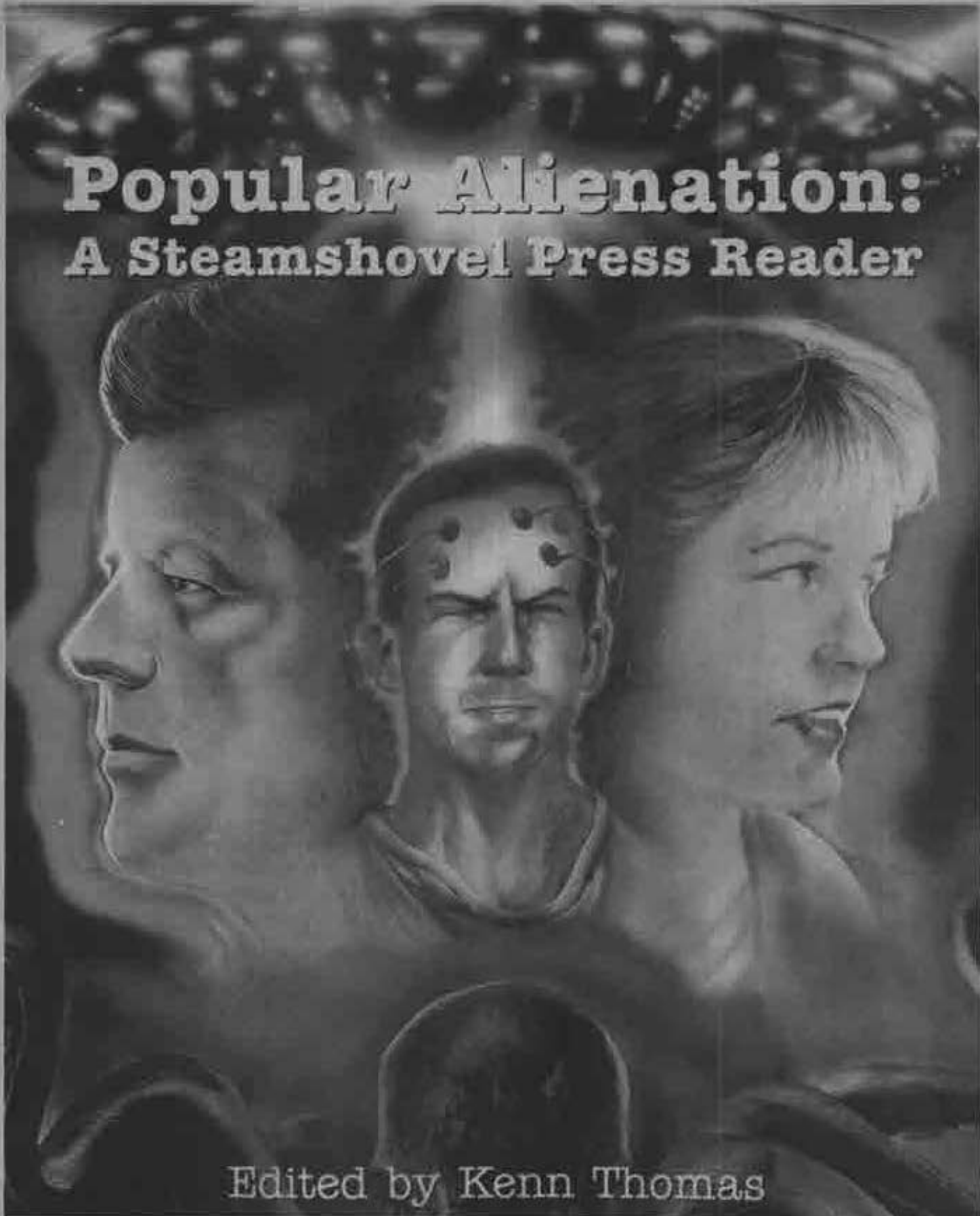
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page 37

Book Reviews

Bases Of Suspicion

The Dulce Papers by Christa Tilton, available from Crux Publications, 2163 S. 78th East Avenue, Tulsa, OK, 74129-2421, \$22.

Does the tiny township of Dulce, New Mexico, harbor a secret underground base controlled by hostile extraterrestrials? And should grown-ups spend \$22 on a compilation volume devoted to this topic?

My answers to those questions would be, in order, "probably not" and "yes." Note, though, that Christa Tilton's new book, *The Dulce Papers*, is not for all. It's not even a book, really. Tilton has produced a fairly thick piece of spiralbound samizdat, a fittingly "underground" publication chock full of fascinating reprints, rare documents, and accounts of on-site investigations.

The author has herself garnered some notoriety as a UFO abductee with a twist: She asserts that her captors included both aliens and military personnel, who whisked her on a tour of an underground facility (possibly the one under discussion here) during a period of missing time. This claim, along with her two unwise marriages within the UFO community, have made her quite a controversial figure. An admission: I know Christa well, and thus can scarcely proclaim myself an objective analyst of either her assertions or her writings. (Then again, objectivity isn't everything. Was Boswell objective about Johnson?)

Despite this possible bias, I still feel that I can fairly recommend her latest volume to specialists — specifically, to those ufologists intent on hunting down the "Dulce base" rumor, one of the most celebrated and eccentric tales ever heard within saucerdom. Even skeptics may want to peruse this file on what they would consider a fringe fable, if only because of the documentation provided. Tilton's scrapbook is your one-stop-shopping resource on northern New Mexican weirdness.

Be warned, though: No-one has ever described Christa as America's most masterful prose stylist, and her organization of materials may bewilder. She doesn't inform the reader that a number of these pages earlier saw print in her irregularly-published newsletter, "Crux." Certain texts would have been more easily comprehensible if we knew the original publication date. And you may need a second reading to rearrange the narra-

DOES THE TINY TOWNSHIP OF DULCE, NEW MEXICO, HARBOR A SECRET UNDERGROUND BASE CONTROLLED BY HOSTILE EXTRATERRESTRIALS? AND SHOULD GROWN-UPS SPEND \$22 ON A COMPILATION VOLUME DEVOTED TO THIS TOPIC?

tive in a linear order.

That's too bad, because Christa performs her best service when she gives patient readers the data necessary to trace the growth of the Dulce tale over time. The story remains widely misunderstood because many don't know its history. Those who first heard the rumors back in the late 1980s must have felt as though they had walked into a complex *film noir* 45 minutes after the show started.

Most UFO aficionados learned of Dulce in 1987, when John Lear publicized his famous (some would say infamous) "John Lear Hypothesis." At that time, a number of wild-eyed, Lear-ing saucer buffs anxiously circulated photocopies of the Dulce sketches — ten pages of simple line drawings depicting underground chambers, aliens, odd genetic experiments, incomprehensible devices, and so forth. These drawings allegedly were adapted from photographs and videotapes smuggled out of the hidden facility — located beneath the Jicarilla Indian reservation — where humans and aliens work together, conducting ghastly experiments. This subsurface alliance is the real reason for the UFO sightings and cattle mutilations which have long plagued the area.

Or so we were told by Lear, and by the anonymous artist who compiled the Dulce illustrations. Alas, no-one has ever proven that these drawings represent anything more than ink on paper. The actual photos and videos have never come to light (except for one still photograph, which may in fact depict any laboratory anywhere). The putative smuggler of this photographic evidence was a former Dulce guard known only as "Thomas C." who has never gone public and may not exist. (More on the "C." sub-mystery later.) Just to make things even more complicated: The hyper-ballyhooed Dulce drawings are in fact "cleaned up" versions of the original (much rougher) sketches, which saw far more limited distribution. Christa publishes, for the first time, both sets.

In any variant, these unverified sketches —

"notes from the underground," as it were — provide slim evidence for such a wild tale. Yet these drawings, and Lear's confident pronouncements, inspired scores (perhaps hundreds) of ET-spotters to make the pilgrimage to Dulce, in search of hidden entrances to the wonders and horrors below. Naturally, these seekers have somewhat annoyed the local Jicarilla Apache police. Most base-buffs have zeroed in on Archuleta Mesa, to the north of town. Despite years of searches, nobody has ever found anything truly odd in this area. Christa avers that the Archuleta Mesa reports are misleading — that to find the heart of Dulce darkness, you have to look elsewhere.

And earlier.

The story really began in 1967, when the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission set off nuclear blasts south of Dulce, in order to set free repositories of natural gas. Alas, the gas became too radioactive to be of any use, which is why Uncle Sam doesn't do that sort of thing anymore. (Lord knows how much of this natural resource was contaminated, or how much of the truth about this debacle remains untold.) More than a decade later, the U.S. Department of Energy continued to find tritium in the water table. The DOE insists that the presence of this radioactive substance in drinking water has never posed a health problem. Needless to say, everyone considers these assurances very comforting.

Much less comforting were the spate of bizarre cattle mutilations which plagued this area throughout the 1970s. A local rancher named Manuel Gomez was hit particularly hard. Of course, attacks also occurred (and still occur) in other states — "mutes" became the chic oddity of the '70s, achieving much the same status as crop circles in the '80s. But if this widespread phenomenon had a home, it was in northern NM; as Nashville was to twanging guitars, Dulce was to cored cattle carcasses.

Journalists Daniel Kagan and Ian Summers did much field work in the Dulce area while studying the mute phenomenon: In 1984, these studies culminated in a well-written debunking volume called *Mute Evidence*, which ascribes the lacerated bovines to coyotes and other scavengers. (For some reason, used copies of this book are now as rare as blue M&Ms.) Kagan and Summers end their opus by playing pop psychologist: The oil crisis and other unsettling news events caused folks to transform odd-looking, but perfectly natural, predations into the stuff of conspiratorial nightmares. That bottom line outraged "mutologists," who argue that

the laser-precise incisions prove that the cows came to a far-from-natural end.

In the earlier pages of their work, Kagan and Summers toy with the interesting notion that the Dulce-area mutilators were government operatives, perhaps using silent, ultramodern, helium aircraft. The goal: sampling livestock for nuclear contaminants left over from the 1967 blast. In other words, the nukes created the mutes.

K&S outline this theory only to toss it away. Others might not wish to discard so hastily this scenario, which neatly explains both the mutilations and the UFO sightings in the Dulce area.

To examine the next permutations of the Dulce story, we must first travel south — specifically, to Albuquerque, NM. Here we meet the sad Dr. Paul Bennewitz, a respected defense contractor who maintained Thunder Scientific Laboratories on the outskirts of Kirtland Air Force Base (located, in turn, on the outskirts of Albuquerque). Bennewitz had a long-standing interest in UFOs, and in 1979 began studying an abduction case; such cases, you will recall, were not nearly so fashionable then as they later became. The abductee in question remains anonymous in most accounts, although a few published reports divulge the name: Myrna Hansen. I've heard that she now works in northern California.

Hansen told Bennewitz her captors absconded her to an underground facility. Indeed, she was one of the first abductees to make such an assertion, although subterranean became a motif in a few subsequent abductee accounts, including Christa Tilton's and Larry Warren's.

What happened next has generated much ink within the UFO-oriented press, although the full story probably remains untold. Here's the version I've pieced together:

Hansen claimed to have received an "alien" intracerebral implant, which Bennewitz assumed was a receiver for signals from her UFO-naut kidnappers. Using equipment from his lab, the scientist believed that he could trace the signal to its origin point: Kirtland AFB. Still convinced that ETs were the culprits, Bennewitz contacted AFOSI officers stationed at Kirtland — specifically, Special Agent Richard Doty and Major Ernest Edwards. There is no evidence that they took Bennewitz' warning ("Space aliens are hiding on your base!") at face value. Yet they did not dismiss him as a mere nut. Indeed, they decided to pay special attention to Paul Bennewitz — the sort of attention that would haunt him for the rest of his life.

Shortly after this initial meeting, Edwards and

Doty somehow gained access to Paul Bennewitz' computer system — or thus I have been informed by one believable source. Bennewitz soon began to receive on-screen computer messages from "the aliens." Having established contact with "them" (the dream of every ufologist), he initiated the grandly-named "Project Beta," in which he tried to learn as much as possible from the suddenly-chatty off-worlders.

He also allegedly photographed alien craft swooping over Kirtland AFB. These photos don't seem to have impressed anyone except Bennewitz, who dutifully reported this additional evidence of alien intrusion to Edwards and Doty. Interestingly, they invited the scientist *on the base* for a briefing session. Most self-proclaimed UFO-spotters never receive such attention.

The obvious inference is that Bennewitz was in contact *not* with aliens, but with psychological warfare specialists employed by Air Force intelligence, pursuing an agenda of their own. One might even speculate that the Air Force was responsible for the original Hansen implant, if said implant ever truly existed. Being a proud man, Bennewitz refused (and probably still refuses) to accept the possibility that he was hugger-muggered by human beings.

At this point Bill Moore — an intelligent, Harley-riding former teacher who co-wrote the first book on the Roswell incident — became involved in this sorry business. Doty, who knew Moore, tasked him to check up on poor Dr. Bennewitz, in order to gauge the effectiveness of the disinformation campaign. In some circles this sort of thing is called spying. When Moore confessed to his role during a 1989 UFO conference in Las Vegas, he became a much-hated figure within the saucer-buff community. (Frankly, even before this confession, Moore's somewhat abrasive personality had won him few friends.)

At this point, I should interject an interesting side-story. I met Bill Moore over lunch (in the summer of 1991, if memory serves) to discuss the Bennewitz business and other matters. I told him I had heard that Edwards and Doty somehow gained access to Dr. Bennewitz' computer system — a key point never before published (to my knowledge). I conjectured that E&D, or their AFOSI comrades, were the "aliens" sending computer messages to the naive, easily-bamboozled scientist. (Those who have read my monograph "The Controllers" can probably guess the line of inquiry I was pursuing.)

Upon hearing the name of Major Edwards, Moore momentarily seemed to lose his famed composure. At our next lunch, and after checking with

his "inside sources," Bill gave me additional data: The computer virus which contaminated Bennewitz' system was actually the product of — not the E&D team — but Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the late, famed ufologist who originated the term "Close Encounters." Hynek, it seems, secretly worked for "them" (i.e., the intelligence community) all along, and played a key role in the effort to spike Bennewitz.

Or so I was meant to believe. Yet so I did *not* believe. If Bill Moore possessed Irish charm and twinkling eyes, he could babble such blarney without making so many folks enraged. At any rate, individuals who knew the late J. Allen Hynek well have assured me that Moore's "Hynek-did-it" story is a laughable libel, directed against someone who isn't around to defend himself.

Leg-pulls of this sort demonstrate why some people have a problem with Bill Moore — and why some people get fed up with ufology in general.

At any rate: *Whoever* was playing *Gaslight* with Paul Bennewitz during the 1980s managed to do quite a number on that poor fellow's noggin. He eventually reported alien "bedroom visitations." Ultimately, he did a stint or two in a mental health facility. The following excerpt from a Bennewitz let-

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-the Sirte document, 1992

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ter to a colleague, written after protracted "alien" communication, should demonstrate how far his thought processes had degenerated — or expanded, depending on your point of view;

"So, in simplicity, Initiation is GOD, sacrifice and Law, Progression is Mentor created with special attributes, Mentor is terminated and then sacrifice is Mentor, History is kept, Reference established, Culture follows progeny and a new reference is established. Then teaching must occur, new keys must be made, and coexistent Star-Progeny established. History must now be shown as History! Isn't that great?! TRUE SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENMENT FOR ALL!"

It must be emphasized that Bennewitz previously had been a respected scientist whose writings did not resemble the schizy scribbles printed on Dr. Bronner's soap packages. More than a few UFO buffs have wondered whether unknown bar-sinisters placed a foreign substance in Dr. Bennewitz' coffee, or resorted to some even dirtier MKULTRA-style trick. At any rate, AFOSI safely decedibilized Bennewitz' work on the Hansen case.

Now, as Bill Cosby once said, I told you that story to tell you this one. "The aliens" (a.k.a. Air Force Intelligence) told Dr. Bennewitz many "tall tales" during this period. And a number of those tall tales focused on Dulce.

Remember Dulce...?

Bennewitz learned — and repeated to the world — the awful truth about the underground alien base at Dulce, New Mexico. He learned about an atomic-powered alien space craft which had crashed on or near Archuleta Mesa. He heard of an alien-human shoot-out in 1979 which led to the deaths of some 44 scientists. And so forth. Thus was born a legend.

These bizarre tales probably would not have gone very far if the only man relating them was the same person responsible for such nuggets of wisdom as "Progression is Mentor with special attributes." But a few years later, others picked up the tune. One noteworthy advocate of the Dulce tale was, as we have mentioned, John Lear, the famed CIA-pilot turned ufologist. Another was Air Force Technical Sergeant John Grace (a.k.a. "Val Valerian"), who publishes anything he can swipe in his "Matrix" books and "Leading Edge" newsletter.

But Lear and company claimed that additional sources "confirmed" the Dulce rumors. Who were these post-Bennewitz informants? And where did the Dulce sketches come from?

Here's where the story becomes (to me) particularly interesting, and where Christa's volume

becomes particularly helpful. The Paul Bennewitz revelations about Dulce were seconded and expanded by the mysterious Thomas C., who — recall — allegedly smuggled the photos which inspired the Dulce sketches. But, as far as I can determine, Lear never met this individual directly. So: how did Thomas C. make his material available to Lear, and to the world at large?

The intermediary, it turns out, was a para-weird character named Thomas A. Levesque, a.k.a. "Tal," a.k.a. "Jason Bishop."

Some years ago, I used to speak with Tal on a fairly regular basis; I even met him a couple of times. Talk about unforgettable characters! A devout believer in "hollow earth" theories, Tal worked (works?) as a security guard at Northrup — yet he also has intimate knowledge of nearly every occultic group in California. His pet beliefs concern the presence of an evil "reptilian" alien race which had established covert control over Earth. (Perhaps coincidentally, "the serpent race" has become a key euphemism employed by certain anti-Semites.) Naturally, he'd once experienced an alien visitation — from a reptilian, no less — and even once mentioned something about receiving his very own alien implant. More ominously, Tal also claimed to have connections to a paramilitary group intent on "re-taking" the ET-infested Dulce base.

I never did figure Tal out; he seems to have constructed his life as an act of surrealism. Of course, he has also dabbled — well, "dabbled" isn't quite the word — in do-it-yourself LSD research, which may explain how he achieved expert knowledge of so many cosmic mysteries.

At any rate: Back when I was in communication with Tal, he described himself as a longtime friend to, and latter-day protector of, our old friend "Thomas C.," that elusive, fugitive Dulce whistleblower. Years ago, Tal and T.C. went through Army G2 training together. When T.C. bugged out of his Dulce duties, he called upon his old pal Tal, who helped him lie low while they planned how to alert the world to the terrors below.

Or so I was told; Tal — almost needless to say — never gave me any real proof of Thomas C.'s existence. However, a favored few in the UFO community have received copies of letters supposedly written by the secretive Mr. C. These letters address issues that go way beyond the Dulce mystery. They contain speculations about metaphysical matters (religion, the origin of humanity, and whatnot) — speculations in striking accordance with Tal's own oddball philosophy. Perhaps Tal and "Thomas C." are one and the same...?

Another "begetter" of the Dulce papers was a

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middle-aged woman named Cherry Hinckle, who lives (or lived) in Henderson, Nevada. Hinckle, who has trouble conjugating the verb "to be," apparently wrote the text which usually accompanies the Dulce sketches. While Christa's volume never names this woman directly, the book spends a few pages outlining Hinckle's connections to both "Thomas C." and the anti-Dulce paramilitary force — which I sincerely hope has laid down its arms, if it ever truly existed.

And that's as far as I can trace the origins of the Dulce tale: Everything leads back to Bennewitz, Tal, and Hinckle. This is the trio who inspired Lear, Grace, and the rest. This is the trio who founded the "mystery" that will, in all likelihood, continue to set UFO buffs hiking through the wilds of northern NM for decades to come.

Nevertheless, I strongly suspect that the Dulce rumor has deeper origins. We know that Bennewitz did not create the tale out of whole cloth; he merely regurgitated what AFOSI fed him. Moore has stated that the same AFOSI people who disinfomed Bennewitz also disinfomed John Lear. If that's true, Levesque and Hinckle may have been early victims of (or participants in?) a deception operation, conceived and continued for purposes

we can only guess at.

But then again: Is the Dulce rumor just a rumor?

Christa's volume convinces me that you probably won't find anything very unusual on Archuleta Peak (except, perhaps, some higher-than-normal tritium readings.) But you may spot oddities if you fly over the area south of Dulce, as did Christa and a team of Japanese videographers. This team captured images purporting to show air vents and hidden entrances dotting the rugged New Mexican landscape. Alas, this photographic evidence is indistinct and (to me) unpersuasive.

However, Christa once let me examine a very clear aerial photo (which, oddly, she refuses to reproduce) that I found genuinely spooky. This image showed a man-made circular hole in the ground, large enough to provide helicopter entrance and exit; the surrounding area was uninhabited New Mexico forest land. The entire set-up seemed strikingly reminiscent of the hidden facility depicted in the James Bond film *You Only Live Twice*.

Keep in mind: John Lear was proven partially right about Nevada's Area 51. There really is a secret base there, just as he claimed in his "Hypothesis" — although it almost certainly does not have anything to do with extraterrestrials. So perhaps — just perhaps — the Dulce base rumors have a similar foundation in reality.

But if so, why did the Air Force leak the info in such a bizarre fashion? Why did they pick on the beleaguered Bennewitz? And why did they (if my suspicions are correct) continue the fun using Levesque and Lear — not to mention the quasi-mythical Thomas C. — as their vehicles?

Dulce, New Mexico, may not be the home-away-from-home of an alien race. But it is the abode of a continuing mystery. If you want to have a go at this conundrum, Christa Tilton's *The Dulce Papers* will prove invaluable.

—Martin Cannon

Taking Trask To Task (Again)

It may seem pointless, indeed, to question the merits of *Pictures of the Pain*. Richard Trask's recent tome discussing photography and its relation to the JFK assassination. Indeed, in reviewer Kenn Thomas' words: "...[it] belongs in the collections of every JFK buff". This regarding a book that "...doesn't seem to get the main point about the assassination, almost willfully avoiding facts that lead to conclusions about the conspiracy." In fairness to Mr. Thomas, he does attempt to differenti-

ate between the book's value as a photo album, as opposed to a work of research on the JFK assassination conspiracy. But presuming one can draw such a distinction, just how valuable is *Pictures of the Pain* as a photo album?

Like the "JFK researcher" mentioned by Mr. Thomas, I also purchased the book "for its obvious pictorial merits." I saw no problems in doing so—even if it were necessary to completely ignore the text. Unfortunately, that may be a nearly impossible task. Here are several examples demonstrating that, try as they might, Mr. Thomas and other readers may not be aware of just what it is that this photo collection is revealing...or hiding. For all the verbiage on focal length, F-stops, and chosen lenses, omits basic data germane to even a rudimentary understanding of the photographs in question.

Check out "Willis #7" (*Pictures of the Pain*, p. 171) captioned, "the Willis slide taken moments before the president is hit." Here are a few such examples of what Trask feels comfortable omitting from his discussion of this photo, not the least of which concerns how the picture was extensively altered, while ostensibly in the protection of the U.S. Secret Service between November 25, 1963 and some time late in January 1964:

1. The railroad boxcars, clearly visible through the slats of the structures next to the grassy knoll (pp. 185; 190; 208; 210-213 of, believe it or not, *Pictures of the Pain*) are airbrushed completely out of existence in "Willis #7", leaving just pale sky. Relevance? Oh, minor, I guess: the three "tramps"—whose recent and sudden "identification" Trask is all too eager to believe, as pointed out by Mr. Thomas—were picked up from these occasionally invisible box cars.

2. Connally's head is partially airbrushed and Mrs. Kennedy's appearance has been altered to a degree which must be seen to be believed; and the results are downright eerie: her stylish pillbox hat and short jacket have suddenly become a "get-up" that would be considered conservative on, say, Ethel Merman: the hat is now, in Willis #7, a head-hugging "Flapper" style cap; the jacket's conservative collar is now an enormous fur boa-like affair so large that the forgers even have it appear that the breeze has lifted it up on the side facing her husband. Relevance? Again, trivial, I guess: utilizing, for example, the Z-film—Mr. Zapruder is visible in Willis #7—parallax can be carefully analyzed, and the limousine's precise location, in time and space, determined. Thus, if the photo reveals Mrs. Kennedy or Connally reacting to shots in an "improper" manner or even at an "inappropriate"

moment, that data would have to "go". It went.

Check out the famous photograph by Associated Press photographer Ike Altgens (*Pictures of the Pain*, pp. 314, 320). A ton of intelligence has been gleaned from this once-suppressed picture. Trask discusses much of it, including of course the issue of whether the man in the doorway is Oswald or a co-worker of his. But am I the only individual who finds the gentleman on the left of "Oswald" at least as important? Is it within the purview of a work on photography to discuss the identity of someone about whom the forgers were so concerned that they've hidden his identity with a superimposed grey triangle?

On it goes. Space prevents the presentation of further examples of lousy photographic analysis, let alone "missing the main point of the assassination." Luckily, most researchers who want these photographs for their collections already "get" the "main point". Luckily, that portion of the "lay" public that wants them will probably be protected to a degree by the book's expense and low availability. Chances are they've probably already shelled out thirty bucks for *The Killing of the President*, Robert Groden's colorful and incomprehensible 1993 coffee-table style book which is equally appalling, albeit for somewhat different reasons. As is his custom, Groden plays the "limited hang-out" game, playing lip service to the fact of conspiracy while providing absolutely nothing in the way of insight or intelligence. Again luckily, one needn't lose too much sleep over the specter of confused masses being forever influenced by incomplete or inaccurate photographic analysis. Try to match a photo to its corresponding text—both are haphazardly slapped onto each and every slick and glossy page. (Robert Groden, *The Killing of a President*, New York: Viking Studio Books, 1991)

It is of more than passing interest that Trask, at the end of *Pictures of the Pain*, mentions the growing perception among researchers that Groden, while photographic "expert" for the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA), "liberated" more than mere copies of the photographic evidence he was analyzing. Although the jury may still be out on this issue, it may have a verdict on another issue, the relevance of which should be obvious: will Groden's name be expunged from future printings of *High Treason*, the 1989 book that co-author Harrison Livingstone has been claiming for years that he, himself, wrote alone? Stay tuned.

—Larry Lentol

BACK ISSUES--The Actual Artifacts:

Only the following issues are still available for \$5 each plus \$1 postage, mailed first-class:

Think On It: Except for photos, graphics and ads, the majority of the editorial content in these back issues appears in the new anthology, *Popular Alienation: A Steamshovel Press Reader*, available for 19.95 from IllumiNet Press, POB 2808, Lilburn, GA 30226. Visa and MasterCard Orders call toll free 1-800-680-NET. (See ad on page 23.) *PopAlien* also contains the mysterious non-issue, *Steamshovel Press #13*—not available in individual, artifactual form. Still, the magazines below will have collector value when the conspiratorial superstructure collapses.

#5 Mark Lane, Dick Gregory, Kerry Thornley and Jim Mays blow steam and wax poetic in the wake of Oliver Stone's JFK; Presidency as Theatre; UFOs and the Tabloids; Questions about CIA connections of Nazified politician David Duke.

#6 Special *Steamshovel Press* recently discovered a stock of ten copies of its rare issue #6. Deborah Davis interview on Katharine Graham and Mary Pinchot Meyer; Jim Martin on the Reich prison file; Lenny Bruce and Danny Casolaro. The copies are available for \$15 (not cheap!) each to the first ten people who order them.

#7 Interview with Jonathan Vankin before his bookcover became a TV comed!; Robert Anton Wilson getting away with whatever reality he can; some John Judge judgements about the Assassinations Review Act; Tim Leary, Paul Krassner, Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman's widow keeping the party lively; Carl Oglesby explicates the Gehlen Nazi/American connection; an Octopus slouches toward Men!

#8 Lars Harsson speaks out on J. Edgar Hoover in *Bagante delicto*; Sean Morton: "A shuttle is going back and forth from here to the moon. It supplies the four bases that we have on the moon."; Stephanie Caruana on Gemstone File research: "If you have three vectors, you can locate a point in three dimensions."; the Illuminated P. K. Dick; A. J. Weberman and the JFK tramp garbage.

#9 Chicago Eightist David Dellinger says Abbie Hoffman was killed; Allen Ginsberg reflects upon the lessons of the old Cold War; Vladimir Terziski on Nazi secret society UFO; X. Sharks DeSpot examines FBI interest in cattle mutilations; Vankin on Biowarfare; Jim Keith on LaRouche.

#10 JFK and Mary Pinchot Meyer arm-in-arm, a rare photo!; Dave Emory stares down the fascists; Lars Harsson redux; Gerald Posner deposed; Len Bracken deconstructs Carroll Quigley lecture tapes, much more!

Steamshovel Press Numbers 11 and 12 have sold out! Sorry!

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Coming Soon From Feral House: THE OCTOPUS



The Biggest Scam in the World

The Creature From Jekyll Island by G. Edward Griffin, American Media, P.O. Box 4646, Westlake Village, California 91359, 800-282-2873, \$24

Money. Money, Money. Everybody's interested in money. But where does it come from? And where does it go?

If you've ever wondered, you should read G. Edward Griffin's *The Creature from Jekyll Island*, the story of the Federal Reserve.

Neither "federal", nor a "reserve", it turns out that the euphemistically named "Fed" is a cartel, established by private banks, which effectively controls the money supply in the United States.

As background for a true story of international intrigue, Mr. Griffin writes about a secret meeting in 1910 on Jekyll Island in Georgia. "The purpose of this meeting... was to come to an agreement on the structure and operation of a banking cartel."

"The goal of the cartel, as is true with all of them," he writes, "was to maximize profits by minimizing competition between members, to make it difficult for new competitors to enter the field, and to utilize the police power of government to enforce the cartel agreement... In more specific terms, the purpose and indeed the actual outcome of this meeting was to create the blueprint for the Federal Reserve System."

"...The purpose of a cartel is to reduce competition and thereby increase profitability. This is accomplished through a shared monopoly over their industry which forces the public to pay higher prices than would be otherwise required under free-enterprise competition."

As monopoly capitalist John D. Rockefeller once so aptly put it, "Competition is a sin."

Mr. Griffin continues, referring to the members of the meeting. "They were often competitors and there is little doubt that there was considerable distrust between them and skillful maneuvering for favored position in any agreement. But they were driven together by one overriding desire to fight their common enemy. The enemy was competition."

Sound like a conspiracy? Nope, just business as usual. With a couple of new twists. Imagine a business that owns a machine that creates money out of thin air. If the machine breaks, you have the taxpaying public pay for a new one. Ad infinitum. What a deal...

As historian Antony Sutton has written, "The Federal Reserve System is a legal private

MR. GRIFFIN'S VERSION OF THE DOMINO THEORY GOES LIKE THIS. "THE CHAIN OF EVENTS BEGINS WITH FIAT MONEY CREATED BY A CENTRAL BANK, WHICH LEADS TO GOVERNMENT DEBT, WHICH CAUSES INFLATION, WHICH DESTROYS THE ECONOMY, WHICH IMPOVERISHES THE PEOPLE, WHICH PROVIDES AN EXCUSE FOR INCREASING GOVERNMENT POWER, WHICH IS AN ON-GOING PROCESS CULMINATING IN TOTALITARIANISM."

monopoly of the money supply operated for the benefit of the few under the guise of protecting and promoting the public interest."

In other words, the alchemists' ancient dream of creating gold out of lead had been surpassed by the Federal Reserve which makes money out of nothing.

Actually it's really not nothing, it's debt. And how does this remarkable process take place? In his book, Mr. Griffin patiently explains the arcane secrets of banking. Here's an example:

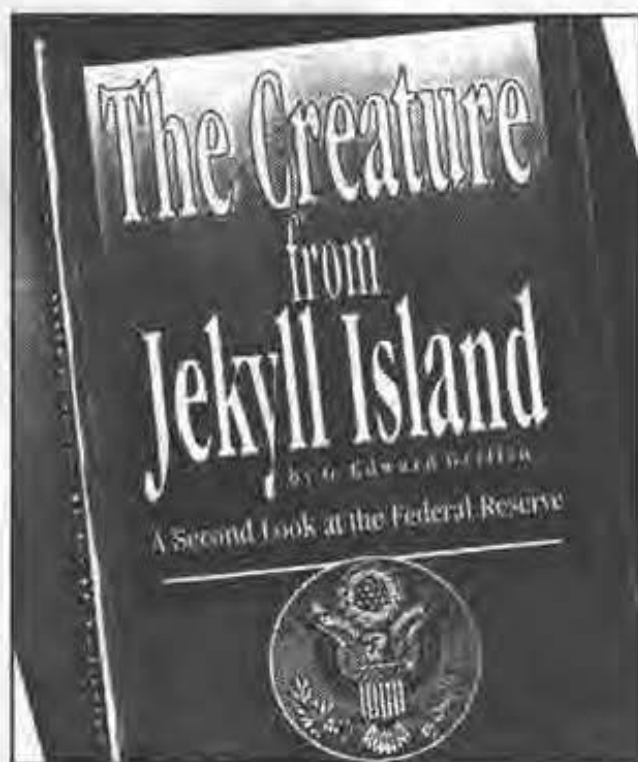
"It is difficult for Americans to come to grips with the fact that their total money supply is backed by nothing but debt and it is even more mind-boggling to visualize that, if everyone paid back all that was borrowed, *there would be no money left in existence.*"

A Federal Reserve bulletin, quoted in the book, states that, "modern monetary systems have a fiat base — literally money by decree — with depositary institutions, acting as fiduciaries, creating obligations against themselves with the fiat base acting in part as reserves."

Welcome to the strange world of international finance. But it gets even more interesting.

Paul Warburg, one of the masterminds behind the Federal Reserve, himself wrote that "while technically and legally the Federal Reserve note is an obligation of the United States Government, in reality it is an obligation, the sole actual responsibility for which rests on the reserve banks...The government could only be called upon to take them up after the reserve banks failed."

What does that mean? Mr. Griffin writes



that "Warburg is telling us that Federal Reserve notes constitute privately issued money with the taxpayers standing by to cover the potential losses of those banks which issue it. One of the more controversial assertions of this book is that the objectives set forth at the Jekyll Island meeting included the shifting of the cartel's losses from the owners of the banks to the taxpayers. Warburg himself has confirmed it."

Mr. Griffin should be applauded for his heavily footnoted and meticulous research in *The Creature from Jekyll Island*, a clear, concise analysis of the Federal Reserve System.

It's fascinating reading, a short course in history, economics, and banking that explores the reasons behind the Civil War, the Bolshevik Revolution, World War I and II, and the global consolidation of wealth and power in the so-called New World Order.

And it's a thought-provoking look at the occult secrets of finance with a solid historical overview of the central bank system in England and the United States — typically a scam run by bankers and politicians in cahoots with one another.

You'll find out how the Federal Reserve as well as the International Monetary Fund have been used to create wars, revolutions and mega-profits for bankers. And how the creation and manipulation of money relates to the establishment of the socialists' biggest wet dream — totalitarian govern-

ment on a global scale. High tech feudalism coming right to your own neighborhood, if you give them a chance.

With that in mind, Mr. Griffin makes a strong and eloquent case for the abolition of the Federal Reserve System. Why? Mr. Griffin gives seven reasons: "1/ It is incapable of accomplishing its stated objectives, 2/ It is a cartel operating against the public interest, 3/ It is the supreme instrument of usury, 4/ It generates our most unfair tax (inflation), 5/ It encourages war, 6/ It destabilizes the economy, and 7/ It is an instrument of totalitarianism."

Mr. Griffin's version of the domino theory goes like this. "The chain of events begins with fiat money created by a central bank, which leads to government debt, which causes inflation, which destroys the economy, which impoverishes the people, which provides an excuse for increasing government power, which is an on-going process culminating in totalitarianism."

The Creature From Jekyll Island should be required reading in every high school (and home school) and college in the country. It's the most readable and easy to understand explanation of "economics" I've ever seen.

I wish I could get a copy of this book for everyone I know. It's that important!

—Uri Dowbenko

Planning for Dictatorship

Socialism: The Road To Slavery by Dr. John Coleman, Joseph Publishing Co., 2533 N. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada 89706, \$20., 800-942-0821

Socialism doesn't work. Never has. Never will.

So despite a dismal track record of failure (witness the social and economic havoc in Great Britain, Sweden, and the former Soviet Union), why has this ideology remained a favorite of plutocrats around the world?

In his third book, *Socialism: The Road to Slavery*, Dr. John Coleman examines the totalitarian impulse of the Power Elite that drives them in their silent and invisible war to repress freedom and produce a Brave New World (Order).

The motto of the Fabian Society, founded by Socialists, was, after all, "Make Haste Slowly". Named after Quintus Fabian, a Roman general whose claim to fame derived from his tactics — waiting patiently for the enemy then striking without mercy, the Socialists have done exactly that in America — subverting the U.S. Constitution

through illegal treaties like NAFTA and GATT as well as presidential "executive orders" which are ipso facto unconstitutional.

According to Dr. Coleman, *"The Four Pillars of the House of Socialism"*, written by Sydney Webb shortly after WW I, became the blueprint for future Socialist action, not only in Britain, but also in the United States. The plan called for the destruction of the system of production of goods and services based on competition, unlimited taxation, massive state welfare, no property rights and a one world government."

"These objectives did not differ all that much from the principles laid down by Karl Marx in the Communist Manifesto of 1848. The differences lay in method of application and style rather than substance."

In other words, while the Communists called for bloody revolution, the Socialists wanted to slowly transform the American system into a neo-feudal dictatorship run by plutocrats using a welfare state federal government as a front.

Dr. Coleman continues: "In detail, state-financed welfare was to be the first principle... All land to be nationalized with no private property rights. All industries 'serving the people' (rail, power, light, phone, etc.) to be nationalized, 'private profit' to be eliminated from the insurance industry, confiscation of wealth via taxation to be stepped up, and finally the concept of a One World Government was spelled out: international economic controls, international courts providing international legislation governing social affairs."

Sound vaguely familiar? It should. The Socialist agenda is ratified every day by all three branches of U.S. government.

Then what exactly is the difference between a Socialist and a Communist?

Ezra Taft Benson wrote in *A Race Against Time*, "Where the ends they seek are concerned, Socialism and Communism are virtually interchangeable terms. Indeed Lenin's party continued to call itself, 'Social Democrat' until the Seventh Party Congress of March, 1918, when it substituted the term, 'Bolshevik' as a protest against the non-revolutionary parties of the West."

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In his book, Dr. Coleman writes that "the Fabian Socialists followed the Communist Manifesto of 1848, but in a more genteel, less abrasive manner. Their aims however were the same: a world revolution which would end in a One World Government — a New World Order in which capitalism would be replaced by Socialism in a welfare state, in which every individual would be beholden to a dictatorial Socialist hierarchy for everything in life."

And how was this to be done? "The Fabian Socialists set out to achieve their goals in England and the United States by placing individuals in key positions from where they were able to exert undue influence in changing the direction of both countries. In the United States, the two prime agents in this regard undoubtedly were Professor Harold Laski and John Kenneth Galbraith. In the background, one of the 'old guard' of British Fabianism, Graham Wallas, was director of propaganda."

Wallas himself wrote a book called *The Great Society*, appropriated fifty years later by President Lyndon B. Johnson for his program of the same name. According to Coleman, "Wallas became a conduit into the United States for Fabian Socialist ideas, much of them going into Roosevelt's 'New Deal', written by Socialist Stuart Chase, Kennedy's 'New Frontier' written by Socialist Henry Wallace and Johnson's 'Great Society' written by Graham Wallas. From these facts alone, the tremendous impact of Fabian Socialism upon the American political scene can

be gauged."

And how did they get in position to wreak such havoc? Coleman writes that "Fabian Socialists, both in the United States and Great Britain appeared in such a benign light and their highly-cultured background and great personable charm made it very hard to believe those who were warning that these affable social elite were a subversive group desirous of stripping the right to own property and threatening to carry off the United States Constitution piece by piece. It just didn't seem possible to think of this elite group as revolutionaries and anarchists — which in essence is exactly what they were."

"Perhaps one of the more singular of its big lies is that Socialism strives to better the lot of the common people and unlike capitalism, Socialists are not interested in personal wealth. Socialists are always preaching about the evils of capitalism. But a quick look at some of the leading Socialists quickly reveals that the leadership is drawn from the most elite elements of our society, people using Socialist causes to feather their own nests."

Millionaire Socialist Ted Kennedy comes to mind for some reason.

The Socialists are basically a hypocritical tribe. "Do as I say, not as I do" seems to be their motto. "Nothing was too base for Franklin D. Roosevelt and his family in pursuit of money," writes Dr. Coleman. "The Delanos (Roosevelt married Sara Delano) made a fortune out of the opium trade... One of Roosevelt's closest advisors, Bernard Baruch and his partner had a monopoly on the copper industry that enabled Baruch to make millions upon millions of dollars out of World War I while the 'common man' was dying by the millions in the mud and blood of the trenches in France."

One of the greatest Socialist ploys is trying to make an end run around the Constitution. Dictatorial and unconstitutional so-called "executive orders" have been routinely used by Socialists from Ronald Reagan to Bill Clinton.

The latest wrinkle? "Line Item Veto power is another step toward the Socialist goal of making the United States Constitution of no effect. The Constitutional power of the president is found in Section II of the United States Constitution. He has no other power."

Ever wondered about Roosevelt's "New Deal"? Coleman writes that "the New Deal Socialist program was cleverly couched as a 'relief' program for workers who were stricken by the Depression. In fact the 'New Deal' was the book *New Deal* written by Stuart Chase, a British Fabian Society member."

"... Chase proposed three major steps to be taken by Socialists in America: 1) To obviate accidental inflation and deflation, the dollar was to be 'managed'; 2) The national income to be forcibly redistributed through increased income taxes and inheritance taxes; 3) A vast public works program was to be instituted, particularly in electrification works, based on the Soviet model and large-scale housing projects."

Number One is the establishment of the Federal Reserve System, a private banking cartel that creates "money" out of debt and charges the American taxpayer interest. Number Two is the Income Tax, and Number Three consists of so-called "entitlement programs", which create and perpetuate the Underclass, wards of the Welfare State. The pernicious legacy of these programs is very much with us today.

Socialists aren't too concerned about your property rights, but if something goes wrong with their "investments" you can count on the U.S. Government bailing them out through increased taxes. And you (or your sons and daughters) could even be called upon to fight their wars.

"Secret advisors were also responsible for getting Roosevelt to retrieve Standard Oil property taken over by the Japanese using American troops for this purpose, the so-called Stimson Doctrine. This doctrine was repeated by President George Bush in the Gulf War which was fought to retrieve British Petroleum Oil property seized by Iraq."

So how do they get away with this fraud?

Dr. Coleman says "that Socialists pick key government positions to this day, a pattern which was to become a part of the scenery whether a Republican or a Democrat sat in the Oval Office. For instance in the Reagan Administration, 3,000 key positions were filled by Heritage Foundation nominees. Ostensibly a 'conservative' think tank, the Heritage Foundation was run from behind the scenes by Peter Vickers Hall, a leading member of the Fabian Society and a committed Socialist."

Since the mainstream print and electronic media don't report these facts, you can draw your own conclusions.

In his book *Socialism: The Road to Slavery*, Dr. Coleman delivers profound insights into world events as well as recent history. Regarding Vietnam, he writes that "there has never been a war like the Vietnam War where our soldiers tried to fight with both hands manacled behind their backs, the keys held by Robert Strange McNamara, Walt Rostow and Dean Rusk."

"No nation's military had to fight according to the rules laid down by an out and out traitor —

Robert S. McNamara. This man should have long ago been tried for treason and hanged. According to McNamara's rules of engagement, our soldiers had to wait until they were surrounded and being shot at before they were allowed to respond."

Dr. Coleman devotes entire chapters to what he calls the Socialist policy of 'permeation' and 'penetration' in education and religion. This means targeting an area of life and saturating it with Socialist propaganda in an effort to subvert it to Socialist goals.

So-called "Outcome Based Education (OBE)" is a case in point. In this program, education is subverted into a means of conditioning and programming children to become good foot soldiers in the New World Order. So-called "liberation theology" takes Christian traditions and principles and perverts them with Socialist doctrine.

"How Socialist 'gradualism' works should be studied by all who are concerned about the future of the United States," writes Coleman.

"... The success of these tactics can be seen in the Clinton presidency, where one major piece of Socialist legislation after another has been forced through on the basis of gradually converting opponents of Clinton into believers in his program. Clinton's Socialist NAFTA, the Crime Bill, and his bill imposing the biggest tax increase in the world on the American people are prime examples of how this creeping paralysis works and how important it is to have traitors in Republican ranks who are wholeheartedly for Socialism but who are labeled 'moderate' Republicans."

Whoah! Adolf Gingrich steps up to the plate.

Don't forget Gingrich's track record; he was the one who sponsored a so-called crime bill HR4079 in 1990 that would have placed the United States in a State of National Emergency, suspended the Bill of Rights and installed martial law because of the so-called "war on drugs". Incidentally a new bill, sponsored by Gingrich, called HR666 would rescind the 4th Amendment which protects Americans from unreasonable search and seizure.

Socialism: The Road to Slavery also explains why NAFTA, GATT and other so-called 'free trade' agreements are unconstitutional. "The first order of business of the Fabian Socialist Colonel Edward House who put President Woodrow Wilson in power was to break down the trade barriers and protective tariffs that had made the United States a great nation in a relatively short time... The NAFTA Agreement and GATT take up where Wilson and Roosevelt left off. Both agreements violate the Constitution of the United States and are the work

of the Fabian Society and their American cousins."

"... Breaking down the trade barriers erected by Washington, Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley was long a cherished goal of the Fabian Society. NAFTA is their concoction, their big chance to open the markets of the United States to one way 'free trade' and through it deal a mortal blow to the American middle class..."

"The Socialist goal to reduce the standard of living of the middle class American to that of a Third World country is somewhere in the region of 87 percent complete, and if matters go as planned, the Clinton administration will soon put the finishing touches to the trade war at the cost of stabbing the American people in the back. As we have often said, President Clinton was selected to carry out a Fabian Socialist mandate and 'free trade' is only one of the treasonous policies he was ordered to carry out."

Socialists are also skilled in the use of semantics, cleverly manipulating words to disguise their real intent.

Watch for this word and hold on to your wallets: "reform", as in health-care reform, or labor reform, or tax reform. Code words like these have been used by Socialist politicians and media to convey an image that appears benign but is actually a "change agent" in itself.

Coleman writes that "Fabian Socialism developed the art of dissembling and lying without seeming to lie. Many were deceived in England and later in the United States where we are still being deceived on a grand scale. But there were occasions when Socialist leaders could not contain themselves, such as the occasion of the 1936 Eastern Spring Conference of Professional Schools for Teachers."

"Roger Baldwin explained the double meaning of words so often used by Fabian Socialists: 'Progressive' meant 'the forces working for democratizing of industry by extending public ownership and control while 'democracy' meant 'strong trade unions, government regulation of business, ownership by the people of industries that serve the public'."

Take note how many times you hear the U.S. government incorrectly referred to as a "democracy" on radio and television. It's not just an innocent mistake. The USA is in fact a republic, and by constantly using the misnomer "democracy" the Socialist view of the world is reinforced in everyone's mind.

Yes, the Power Elite are planning for dictatorship on a global scale. And Coleman's *Socialism: The Road to Slavery* is not only a well-documented

account of this treachery, but it delivers a powerful antidote to this pernicious doctrine.

Coleman's book exposes the *modus operandi* of the archdeceivers of mankind, the manipulators of the Abundant Life, and the monopoly capitalists who use Socialism to move the United States step by step into a One-World Government.

"Socialism is far more dangerous than Communism," writes Coleman, "because of its inherent, evil slow approach to forcing drastic, unwanted changes upon the people of the United States. There is only one way to overcome this violently dangerous menace, and that is for the whole people to be educated to where they recognize what they are up against..."

If you had a sense of humor, you could even say:

Freedom Fighters of the World Unite.

Note: Dr. John Coleman's previous books *Conspirators' Hierarchy: The Story of the Committee of 300* and *Diplomacy by Deception* are also available at the above address.

—Uri Dowbenko

Adam Parfrey speaks with more clarity in *Cult Rapture* (\$14.95; POB 3466; Portland, OR 97208; www.buzzcut.com/central/feralhouse), the new release from his Feral House Press, than his 1987 classic *Apocalypse Culture* (in its various revisions)—rightly described as having breathed new life into the alternative press—because he speaks more frequently and on topics more relevant to the conspiracy circuit as it stands in 1995. Whereas in *Apocalypse Culture*, he expounded upon not much more than historical lycanthropy, self-castration and eugenics, leaving more pertinent topics to other writers in the anthology, in *Cult Rapture* he frames and punctuates the anthology with more of his own writing. As documented in the book, Parfrey has over the years turned his critical insights to some fairly bizarre scenes: the fag-hags of the late Ruth Norman's Unarius Cult; the nexus of rightist politics and Andrea Dworkin's anti-intercourse feminism; the good-of-girls fan club of Ginger Alden, Elvis' last girlfriend, replete with some horrid fan fiction (oddly, Elvis' second-to-last girlfriend was Linda Thompson, who shares a name with the militia activist nearly agent-baited by Parfrey in a later chapter); the

I CAN sex cult for the disabled; the bug-eyed cutey kitsch of Walter Keane.

Parfrey takes a long look at each of these with fairly bald commentary about the absurdities of the situations, not without compassion but with a practiced and almost snobbish distance, something he actually apologizes for in the early chapters. (To avoid total identification with the subject, *50 Greatest Conspiracies* author Jonathan Vankin does a similar thing by posing as a commentator looking in on the conspiracy world from the perspective of a mythical mainstream.) *Cult Rapture* also deals with personalities and issues immediately recognizable to readers with only a passing acquaintance with conspiracy issues, raising the serious questions about the *provocateur* implications of Linda Thompson's aborted march on Washington and her support of Bill Cooper; offering a possible insight into drug lord Khun Sa's fingering of Richard Armitage at Bo Gritz's behest; reproducing the *Soldier of Fortune* photo of a Tim McVeigh lookalike (it actually looks like a mop-top was airbrushed over his buzzcut.)

Here and as he chops through the "fusion paranoia" rhetoric recently offered by *New Yorker*, Parfrey moves from the sardonic postmodern observer to a player in the madness. "My political beliefs combine skepticism of authority tempered with libertarian-style economic self-reliance," he explains. "Unlike hardcore libertarians, I do not worship at the altar of a free market economy for the simple reason that unlimited economic growth along with unchecked procreation seems incompatible with long-term survival of the species." Such a scarcity model differs only in tone from the militia man Parfrey defends, and even though he dismisses the conspiracy theories of Debra Van Trapp, et. al., about Oklahoma City, he clearly has the macrocosmic view that real hard-ball questions remain about that bomb—questions that say things about the overall political situation in the US that make the funky, little social scenes documented in *Cult Rapture* pale in comparison. *Cult Rapture* is without doubt the best "conspiracy" book of the season.

Also from Feral House comes *Psychic Dictatorship in the USA* by Alex Constantine (12.95), who trumpets his debt to Mae Brussell in the dedication and introduction to the book, and proves a worthy disciple; and reports up-front his own status



as a victim of the "non-lethal" biotelemetric weapons technology, the main topic in this book. *Psychic Dictatorship* even includes an entire chapter on E. Howard Hunt and a section on the mysterious child-procurement group known as the Finders. It otherwise offers a tremendous compendium of reportage and sources on mind-control, brainwashing, involuntary human experimentation and intelligence community cults—a wealth of information that rivals previous classics in historical study on this topics as *Acid Dreams* and *Journey Into Madness*. One brief example: "Dr. Allan Frey, a biophysicist at General Electric's Advanced Electronics Center, Cornell University (and a contractor for the Office of Naval Research), published a 'technical note' in *Aerospace Medicine* reporting that the auditory system responds 'to electromagnetic energy in at least a portion of the radio frequency (RF) spectrum. Further, this response is instantaneous and occurs at low power densities...well below that necessary for biological damage.' Frey's subjects 'heard' buzzes and knocks when exposed to low frequency radio emissions. In one experiment a radio beam swept over a subject, and with each sweep he 'heard the radio frequency (RF) sound for a few seconds and reported it'...It seems that the brain is a powerful receiver." With the help of Operation Paperclip Nazi scientists, similar tests were done on unwitting subjects with microwave technology—as if the average unwitting citizen's daily exposure to television was not enough to turn normal human brains to sausage. Even today, a scientist like Jose Delgado, whose electronic brain implants once stopped a charging bull and whose infamous 1969 book *Physical Control of the Mind: Toward a Psycho-Civilized Society* work is footnoted ruefully in *Psychic Dictatorship*, passes himself off as a humanist in the very latest issue of *Free Inquiry* with observations like "human beings are not born free but are products of their genes and modifiable by their culture." Constantine's book helps expose the historical nightmare wrought by that kind of thinking and is a highly recommended antidote.

Paul David Pursglove has put together an anthology of flying saucer testimonials entitled *Zen in the Art of Close Encounters, Crazy Wisdom and UFOs* (\$14.50; The New Being Project, POB 3070, Berkeley, CA 94703) that perhaps sheds more humor than light on either the enigmas of Zen or alien abduction. The book collects essays and anecdotes from an impressive variety of crazy wise people, including Stanley Krippner, Terrence McKenna, Timothy Leary, Marilyn Ferguson, Whitley Strieber and R.A. Wilson. The sagacity of

some of the pieces certainly is challengeable. Barry Taff, for instance, suggests that the government "might be doing the right thing for one of the few times in their existence" by continuing the UFO cover-up." Michael Grosso takes an episode of saucer voyeurism, in which he claims to be in "a perfectly normal state of mind" despite having a half-dressed girlfriend "sprawled on the sofa" during the visitation by Coltrane-coordinated lights in the sky, as a work of alien art. As editor Pursglove points out, though, these experiences are very much like Zen koans, enigmas that yield new meanings through study over years. Also like koans, contributions to *Zen and the Art of Close Encounters* are short, culled from UFO, psychedelic and zine literature from the past couple of years. It may on the surface seem to "New Agey" for some tastes, but the book actually concentrates Zen-ish wisdom from scattered sources and is an easy read for such a difficult topic.

In that Pursglove's book includes many psychedelic celebrities as contributors, readers might consider *Practical LSD Manufacture* by Uncle Fester (\$15; Loompanics Unlimited, POB 1197; Port Townsend, WA 98368) as a good companion book. Uncle Fester notes that because of the "alarmingly low number of [LSD] labs the supply of LSD in this country at constant peril" and sets forth to de-mystify the drug's natural sources and processes of extraction. De-mystification is certainly what is needed in this area, not the demonization and dismissal of the culture at large. To this end, Fester also reports on harvesting the psychedelic TMA-2 from calamus plant roots.

Borderlands Sciences has released *Loom of the Future: The Weather Engineering Work of Trevor James Constable*, a fascinating interview-book with Constable, a loose cannon among cloud-busters, who developed interesting variations of Wilhelm Reich's orgone technology (\$18.75 plus \$2.75 p&h; Borderland Sciences, POB 220, Bayside, CA 95524; 707-825-7733).

Unfortunately, Constable also introduced some variety of mystico-fascistic ideology to orgonomy, something that is not discussed in much detail here. As Constable points out, however, "Rain doesn't recognize political boundaries," and the book amply documents Constable's various Etheric Weather Engineering and Smog Reduction projects with good oral history and a generous number of radar maps and photographs, including four pages of color plates. One photo, of Constable at Disneyland with Cab Calloway, is absolutely priceless. Calloway actually beats out Reich as the only man Constable ever idolized. *Loom Of The Future*

was put together over time from phone, faxes and mail with former Borderland Sciences director Thomas J. Brown, who has since fled to New Zealand.

Still, important questions go wanting: at the end of Curtis LeMay's life, for instance, the general helped Constable conduct weather-manipulation projects with miniature cloudbusting-like cannons called Spiders; Constable also worked for the 1968 George Wallace/Curtis LeMay political campaign. *Loom of the Future* discusses this briefly, but makes no mention that LeMay once yelled at Barry Goldwater—the only other person Constable ever voted for—for inquiring about the Roswell greys. This would have been an interesting line of questioning, considering Reich's UFO involvement. Constable's politics are self-serving: he worked for Wallace because he was convinced Wallace would be assassinated (according to Mrs. LeMay, Wallace felt the same way), and his friend the general be made president. But Constable calls LeMay "the embodiment of integrity and honor" when, in fact, LeMay was the architect a saturation bombing in Japan before Hiroshima and became a nuclear hawk who almost destroyed the world. John Judge has also recently reported that witness Paul O'Connor reported LeMay's presence at JFK's autopsy. Sad that such a figure as LeMay has even a remote link to the work of Wilhelm Reich. *Loom of the Future* is recommended, though, to students of the ether, as long as it is taken with heavy doses of original Reich.

The best place to go for that—and the most highly recommended item in this section, if not in all previous issues, is the new video release by Flatland: *Wilhelm Reich & The UFO Phenomena: In Conversation With Eva Reich, MD* (\$35 from POB 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437). It is not an exaggeration to say that it's like watching an hour of Reich reincarnated as a woman. Put together from two interviews, one conducted in Hancock, Maine in 1990 and another conducted by Jim Martin in Philo, California in 1995, this tape is as close as it gets to seeing things as Reich saw them. Eva Reich was not only his daughter, but also a major player in the original cloudbusting work and in the time of Reich's persecution and imprisonment. At age 71, she comes off as extremely sharp and intelligent, someone who has absorbed healthy doses of the orgone and someone well aware of her lega-



EVA REICH, MD (1995)

cy—even knowledgeable about Reich's flying saucer propulsion mathematics. Unlike others who claim affinity with her father's work, Eva Reich is quite comfortable discussing Reich's UFO work, providing more detail about his actual experiences looking up from under the cloudbusting tubes than anything since *Contact With Space*. Although like her father, she is a literalist when it comes to space ships and alien beings, she discusses with intelligence alternate theories about trans-dimensional visitation and how it fits into the Reichian perspective. Viewers might wonder why Eva Reich has not hit the lecture circuit or produced volumes of her own writing, but she explains by reviewing her father's difficult history—supplemented with brief footage and stills of Reich and time lapse films from the Atmospheric Physics Weather Modification Study

done in Tucson close to when Reich was there cloudbusting—and explains her own successes in the Human Potential movement and as a medical practitioner. It is indeed a rare wonder that Martin—who adds his dismay to the talk at one point by stacking up copies of all the out-of-print Reich books available now more in the used book stores, if at all, than in the college classrooms where they belong—has been able to commit the thoughts of Reich's true heir, who seems to have no inclination for self-promotion, to videotape. If *Steamshovel* readers pick up nothing else in mentioned in this issue here, they should get this.

Short Shrift: IllumiNet Press has released John Keel's classic *Disneyland of the Gods* (\$9.95; POB 2808; Lilburn, GA 30226), gathering Keel's Fortean investigations for *Saga* magazine and other writings around Ivan Sanderson's notion that Earth is a farm ad "we are the crop!"; It looked for a while like Dennis Stacy's UFO articles put *OMNI* magazine under, until the damn thing resurfaced after filling subscriptions with the even more banal *Discover* magazine. Never mind: Stacy now edits *The Anomalist*, well above the *OMNI* pabulum in its exploration paranormal and Fortean science. Issue 2 contained remarkable writing by Loren Coleman, Rupert Sheldrake, Robert Baker and others (\$10 plus \$2.50 postage, checks payable to Stacy, POB 12434, San Antonio, TX 78212; Bruce Cathie's *Harmonic 33* first speculated about the existence of a world magnetic grid after a prolonged UFO sighting in New Zealand in 1952 and

his new book, *The Harmonic Conquest of Space* looks at the grid system in more detail, from Nexus, POB 30, Mapleton, Queensland, 4560 Australia; Alfred Vitale's *Rant* is always worth its \$3.95 cover price, but the current issue (#5) includes Tuli Kupferberg's "Nixon's Big Regret," which is not to be missed, a contribution from Hakim Bey and a "blast from the past" by Aleister Crowley. POB 6872, New York, NY 10128; it came too late for this issue, but expect an extended treatment of Edward Haslam's *Mary, Ferrie and the Monkey Virus*, exploring the connections of David Ferrie's cancer researches (\$12.95: Wordsworth, 7200 Montgomery #280; Albuquerque, NM 87109.)



COALITION ON POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS

Meeting and Commemoration,
November 21-22, Dallas, TX

November 21:

9AM-4PM, Organizing meeting. Admission: \$10

7PM, *The Assassination Films*, new film by Robert Groden and researcher John Armstrong's slide presentation of the creation of the second Oswald. Other special guests to be announced. Separate admission: \$15

November 22:

Commemoration of the 32nd Anniversary of the JFK assassination on the Grassy Knoll.

Paramount Hotel
302 South Houston Street,
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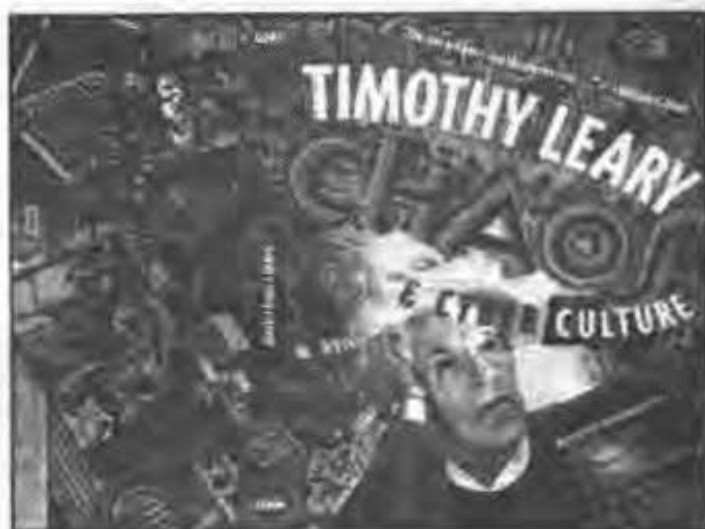
THINGS ARE GONNA SLIDE

Timothy Leary's Structure Dissipates

Psychologist/author/philosopher Timothy Leary reported to the *Los Angeles Times* (8/28/1995) that he is dying of metastasized prostate cancer. With characteristic aplomb, he remarked, "When I found out I was terminally ill, and I know this can be misinterpreted, I was thrilled...It's the exit, the final scene of the glorious epic of your life. It's the third act, and you know, everything builds up to the third act...I've been waiting for this for years."

"I grew up in a culture where you never talked about how much money you made or anything about death. I love topics the Establishment says are taboo," he explained. He received the diagnosis in January after a long speaking tour that ended with a bout of pneumonia. According to Leary, "It was the first time in my life I was ill. I asked for a complete physical exam, and it came back that I had prostate cancer." As of late summer he was not feeling pain or showing other symptoms.

Dr. Leary also made several additional observations about his newly discovered condition to the *LA Times* reporter, including that he might consciously expedite the process ("I use the term 'voluntary dying'...It's a nice way of saying 'killing yourself'") and would possibly use LSD to experience the event: "I like options...You're as young as the last time you changed your mind." Another option he keeps open is the cryonics firm that might make efforts to preserve his brain and/or body after death; the addresses of competing cryonics firms adorn different bracelets on his wrists. Leary remarked, "How you die is the most important thing you ever do." He has begun work on a quality of life document to help preserve threats to his dignity: "I have certain fears of losing my dignity," he says. "Having to be diapered, losing whatever is left of my mental agility. I'm tremendously frightened. The only thing I've ever been frightened of in my life is that stage of total, undignified, vegetable passivity." He also expressed discomfort with conventional burial: "I went past that veterans' cemetery in Westwood the other night, with all those stones in perfect rows, and it just gave me the creeps. It looked like they were all index cards."



"I LIKE OPTIONS...YOU'RE AS
YOUNG AS THE LAST TIME YOU
CHANGED YOUR MIND."

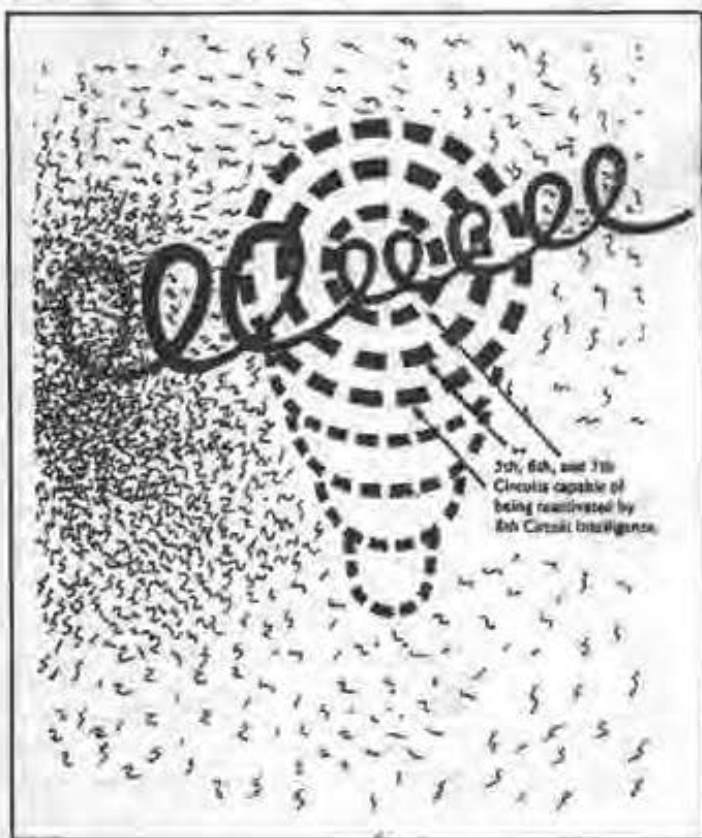
The *LA Times* article included comments from two Leary comrades, Ram Dass and G. Gordon Liddy. Ram Dass noted that "Timothy moves fast through things, leaves them half-digested and goes on to something else. That's very much the way a visionary works. He moves on, but he leaves a lot of ideas behind. It's like science fiction. Someone writes about a world but they don't actually create it. They leave a map for others to follow." Liddy commented that Leary "called me when he was diagnosed and talked about how he was handling it. I promised myself I would get out there to see him, and I will, soon." Leary's third wife, Rosemary Woodruff Leary, who helped him break out of prison in 1970, said, "I think there is an added sweetness to Tim now. In the past you would say he was brilliant, bigger than life, all those things, but not so much a sweet person."

Leary divorced his fourth wife, Barbara, last year and currently has her son, Zach, age 21, temporarily residing with him.

Newsweek reported that Dr. Leary has two rooms prepared at his residence in Beverly Hills for the event of his passing, one for "deliverance" and one for "reanimation." He explained to *Steamshovel* that his personal papers and other archival materials will be given to Stanford University.

An anthology of recent interviews with and writings by Timothy Leary, entitled *Chaos and Cyberculture*, is available for \$19.95 from Ronin

Publishing, Inc., Box 1035, Berkeley, CA 95701. Although each of Tim Leary's books are entertaining and revelatory—and a permanent, on-going contribution to the debate on the important issues of this and the next century—one good place to begin navigating through that large body of work is



the *Annotated Bibliography of Timothy Leary* by Michael Horowitz, Karen Walls and Billy Smith, published in 1988 by the Shoe String Press. Steamshovel Press joins the chorus of Tim Leary fans and supporters to express gratitude for his life and career and the certainty that if anyone can turn a terminal condition into one last great adventure, Tim Leary can.

Above: One of a series of maps on brain circuits, from Tim Leary's 1977, *Exo-Psychology* (Starseed/Peace Press). Some editions had the arrows in red, and would animate into a spin as the reader flipped the pages. Leary revised the book as *Info-Psychology* in 1987 (Falcon Press), with nods to the emerging cyber-computer culture...and with instructions for scratching out and rerouting the arrows. Ram Dass told the *LA Times*: "That's very much the way a visionary works. He moves on, but he leaves a lot of ideas behind. It's like science fiction. Someone writes about a world but they don't actually create it. They leave a map for others to follow."

Where Is Thy Sting?

A 1994 Barricade Books, Inc.-published title called: *Psychedelics: A Collection of the Most Exciting New Material on Psychedelic Drugs*, compiled by Thomas Lytle has an essay by Ray Clare on page 45 which makes reference to the rare honey of a "stingless domesticated honey bee" native to Mexico. This honey, he claims, contains natural psychoactive lysergic acid amides...LSD honey, which the Mesoamerican shamans used in their entheogenic shamanic rites.

Ray Clare has succeeded in "rediscovering" this ancient honey during ethnobotanical research at UCLA in 1981. The essay has even more interesting info on the symbiosis of the "Toltec masked-clown cults" with their bees. Is this for real? Will Beavis and Butthead risk being stung to get at the psychocandy, Candyman? Will the DEA begin harassing beekeepers if they think they're running illegal "DRUG HIVES"? Look what Law Enforcement has done lately trying to rid our Nation's youth of "TOAD LICKING MANIA"! Will Park Service personnel run into boobytrapped "Drug Hives" as they now do with fields of hemp? Where will the hysteria end?

—Cal Meacham

Philip Agee Sues Barbara Bush

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Philip Agee, a former CIA operative who turned against the spy agency, announced Wednesday he had filed a \$4 million libel suit against Barbara Bush, saying she had wrongly linked him to the assassination of a senior CIA officer.

Agee, who led a worldwide campaign in the late 1970s to unmask Central Intelligence Agency officers, accused the former first lady of making false and defamatory statements about him in her 1994 autobiography, *A Memoir*.

Agee claims he has been unfairly tarred by the CIA and U.S. officials in connection with the December 23, 1975, assassination of Richard Welch, CIA station chief in Athens.

Mrs. Bush wrote in her book that Agee disclosed Welch's identity in a "traitorous, tell-all" book published shortly before Welch's assassination by a Greek extremist group.

Agee asserts in his suit, however, that nowhere in his 1975 book, *Inside the Company: A CIA Diary*, did he mention Welch. Nor, he says, did he ever mention Welch in any publication or communication before Welch's death.

Agee said he was suing Mrs. Bush because her claim that he exposed Welch was "particularly egregious" since her husband, former president George Bush, became CIA director 38 days after the killing.

"The man's name was not in my book," Agee said in a telephone interview from his home in Hamburg, Germany. "She's just repeating what her husband and others have been saying ... This just cannot stand."

Agee had his passport revoked in 1979 for allegedly having damaged U.S. national security.

Lynne Bernabei, Agee's Washington lawyer, told a press conference that Agee, 60, had suffered serious damage to his reputation "as a result of the CIA's concerted efforts — this time through the baseless allegations in Mrs. Bush's autobiography — to malign him and falsely ascribe blame to him for a death that was caused by its own ineptitude."

In addition to compensatory and punitive damages of at least \$4 million, the suit seeks a full retraction by Barbara Bush and her publisher, Charles Scribner's Sons and Simon & Schuster, that Agee caused or contributed to Welch's killing.

A spokesman for the Bush family in Houston, Jim McGrath, declined comment on the suit.

Philip Agee v. Barbara Bush: An Analysis of the Case

Richard Welch was killed in December 1975 in Athens. A Greek urban guerrilla group calling itself "November 17" took credit for the killing.

Richard Welch's name was first published in *Who's Who in CIA* by Julius Mader (East Berlin, 1968), along with 2500 other names.

It was also published in early 1975 by *Counterspy Magazine* (Winter 1975 issue, page 26), along with about 100 other names. This issue of *Counterspy* listed Welch as residing in Lima, Peru — which was his previous posting. In the next issue, Summer 1975, *Counterspy* again listed Welch as a CIA officer, under cover as an attaché at the U.S. embassy in Lima.

Welch was listed in the 1969 State Department *Biographic Register* and the 1973 State Department *Biographic Register*, and no doubt others as well (these are the two I have handy). In both the 1969 and 1973 listings, the biographic details peg him as an obvious CIA officer for those who know how to read the *Register*.

Counterspy could have gotten its information from the *Biographic Register*. Beginning in

1975, the *Biographic Register* was given a "Limited Official Use" classification, but before 1975 it was available to the public. In the *Washington Monthly*, November 1974, an article by former State Department official John Marks, titled "How to Spot a Spook," described how to read the *Biographic Register*.

In fact, *Counterspy* told Agee that a Maryknoll priest who worked as a missionary in Peru had visited their office a year earlier, and brought with him a copy of a Peruvian journal with Welch's name in it as the CIA chief in Lima. ("On the Run," p. 133)

In late November, 1975 the *Athens News* named ten CIA people in Greece, and included Welch's name and address. It is said that even the local tour buses would point out the home of the CIA station chief as they drove by.

Agee's book came out in 1975, which blew the cover on dozens of CIA officers. By the Summer 1975 issue of *Counterspy*, Agee was listed on the advisory board of *Counterspy*, along with 15 other prominent activists.

By the time Agee's book came out, the CIA's Ted Shackley was running a major operation to control the damage to the CIA and discredit Agee (see David Corn's *Blond Ghost*, 1994). The Welch assassination was also seen a convenient "hook" for stopping the Congressional investigations of the CIA, by changing the focus from "what is the CIA doing around the world," to the issue of "endangering the lives of officers by naming names." The media, which the CIA can manipulate by planting stories and calling in chits from friendly reporters, pretty much fell for this. The CIA had every reason to play up the Welch assassination, and nothing to lose.

The "November 17" group, according to Agee's autobiography *On the Run* (1987), had been stalking Welch's predecessor in Athens, Stacy Hulse, until Welch replaced him in mid-1975. They knew what Welch ate, what cars he drove, and the hours he came and left his residence. (*On the Run*, page 134).

It's apparent that "November 17" did not rely on anything Agee did in order to identify Richard Welch. Even William Colby admitted as much:

From the *Los Angeles Times*, 12/28/77, part I, page 8: ... "[William] Colby said 'bad cover' contributed to the assassination two years ago of Richard Welch, CIA station chief in Athens. This was partly a result of administrative practices that made it easy to identify CIA employees from embassy lists, he said.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, IF THE JUDGE IS INTERESTED IN HIS OWN CAREER, HE WON'T GO AGAINST THE CIA AND BARBARA AND GEORGE. NEVERTHELESS, AGEE'S LAWSUIT IS A GOOD IDEA

"Besides, Colby said, Welch 'accepted the bad cover' by living in the same house as his predecessor and by making only minimal efforts to disguise his identity.

"Although an Athens newspaper published a story naming Welch as a CIA official shortly before his death, Colby said this had only the indirect effect of inflaming potential killers to strike at CIA employees. He said Welch's cover was not adequate to hide him, even without the newspaper account.

"Subcommittee Chairman Les Aspin (D-Wis.) reminded Colby that CIA spokesmen called a number of newspapers the morning after Welch's death to suggest that the assassination was a direct result of the newspaper's printing his name.

"I have pretty specifically avoided saying that," Colby said. "Maybe you are right about the first few telephone calls."

As Colby suggests in the above quotations, elements within the CIA seized on the Welch assassination as a convenient way to discredit Agee. But the details of what happened don't support their propaganda that Agee was responsible for Welch's death. The media, however, didn't worry about the details and tended to repeat the CIA's line. By 1982 the CIA's campaign was successful: the investigations had stopped and the Intelligence Identities Protection Act was signed by Ronald Reagan.

Barbara Bush and her fact-checkers were careless, and forgot to make allowances for the fact that George Bush has always been willing to believe the worst about Agee. George inherited the weak cover problems during his tenure as CIA director immediately following Welch's assassination.

Agee's lawsuit, if it goes to trial, hinges on whether the judge will limit the evidence to the facts of the Welch death specifically. If the judge limits the testimony, Barbara had better reach for her pocketbook. However, if the judge allows the issue of "naming names" in general to be admitted into evidence, then Agee might not even get an apology. Barbara's defense will be that although

she got the "letter" of the facts wrong, she had the "spirit" of the general situation correct.

Needless to say, if the judge is interested in his own career, he won't go against the CIA and Barbara and George. Nevertheless, Agee's lawsuit is a good idea, because it might stop some of the sloppy history, disinformation, and shoot-from-the-hip impressionism that has plagued the issue of Welch, Agee, and "naming names." If you are going to pump out disinformation, you should at least be held accountable for getting the facts right.

—Daniel Brandt

In All Directions

Santilli's Case: Can Americans purchase a copy of Ray Santilli's \$70 footage of the alleged autopsy of the Roswell greys and sell dubs for cost? If it comes from the US military, the images are as much in the public domain as any in the National Archives. If he sues, he must confess a hoax. *Could You Be An Israelite And Not Know It?* A newspaper called The Jubilee in Midpines, CA sent a pamphlet with that title and reported that "over 90 percent of the people known as 'Jews' are not descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob? History reveals they are actually descendants of the fierce Turkish, Mongolian Khazar tribes which roamed the steppes of southern Russia and who adopted the religion of Judaism between the 7th and 9th Centuries. Today, the Khazars are known as 'Jews' not because of race, but because of religion." The only thing that distinguishes this dubious predilection for pedigree from others to a non-anti-Semitic audience is its footnoted reference, to Arthur Koestler, author of *Case of the Midwife Toad*, explicator of synchronicity and LaMarckian evolution... *Danny Casolaro Meets Ed Wood?* "B" filmmaker Al Adamson, whose masterworks included *Satan's Sadists*, *Five Bloody Graves*, *The Naughty Stewardesses* and *Dracula Vs. Frankenstein* (Lon Chaney Jr.'s last movie, was found murdered and interred beneath the Jacuzzi at his home in Indio, California, in August. Indio was the site of a series of murders that writer Danny Casolaro investigated before his own mysterious death in 1991. Those murders involved members of the local Cabazon Indian tribe that attempted to oust the tribes non-Cabazon, mob-and-weapons- industry connected leadership. Police have not connected those murders to this one, however. They arrested a man Adamson contracted to remodel his house... *Fate of the Dharma Combatants:* Nostalgic for Jim Keith's old zine *Dharma Combat*, a three page screed reported

the prognostications of a gypsy psychic named Madame Natasha for sometimes *Steamshovel* contributors. Bob Black, for instance, will give up "irrelevant ideological brouhahas" to become the high-paid divorce lawyer; Ron Bonds will sell out to Rupert Murdoch; Len Bracken will flee to France (Bracken actually had plans for this at press time) and work on a drama, *Waiting for Debord (or someone like him)*; Jim Keith himself will "move to take over the Christian Patriot movement (which he has already infiltrated)"; and G. J. Krupcey will be exposed in *Crash Collusion* as Comte de Saint-Germain. According to the screed, Madame Natasha's crystal ball exploded just after reporting that the editors of *Paranoia* used mind-control to have X. Sharks DeSpot and Stephanie Caruana assassinate *Steamshovel* editor Kenn Thomas. The explosion killed Madame Natasha and blinded Thomas, described as a "stolid sentinel of liberty who..." and the document cuts off...*Sticking His Neck Out*: In an unpublished manuscript entitled *Ostrich*, Joseph Headrick supports Howard Donahue's contention that JFK was accidentally shot by one of the Secret Service agents in the back seat of the follow-up car to the presidential limousine. According to Headrick, he shared a hospital room with the agent, George Hickey, in 1991, and Hickey verified the theory...*West Goes South*: *Steamshovel* reader Jack West lists a two page litany of legal problems, beginning with a separation from his wife in Kentucky in 1976 to exile in Indonesia in 1994. He seeks legal counsel at POB 2329, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia...*Red Mercury Countdown*: The UK's *Sunday Times* reported in 1992 that a compound originating in Russian labs of mercury and antimony oxides necessary to the creation of miniature atomic bombs had been seized by customs all throughout Europe, but that none of it had nuclear-explosive potential. The inventor of the neutron bomb, Dr. Sam Cohen (awarded by Pope Paul VI for the neutron bomb's "potential to transform armed conflict to better reflect the Christian Just War principles"), warned about the Red Mercury mini-bomb in *Spinn*, January 1995. The

Associated Press reported in April 1995 that Yasser Arafat ordered the arrest of Hamas militants who accidentally blew up their own quarters, leaving behind among other things a plastic bomb with 65 pounds of mercuric oxide...*Blast Connections Wanted*: Just prior to the Oklahoma City bombing, April 19 (Waco day) an assistant secretary of the Air Force, Clark G. Flester, his assistant Jack Clark both died along with six others after the explosion and crash of their C-21 military Learjet over the woods patch near Alexander City, Alabama. Two witnesses heard explosions while the jet was still in flight. Sherman Skolnick suggests that plane crash and the OKC bomb are connected and would like anyone with information to contact his Citizens Committee To Clean Up The Courts at 312-375-5741...*Cross The Border, Down The Line*: Two developments help in understanding the 1994 Mexican political assassinations: (1) Raul Salinas, guest scholar at the University of San Diego and elder brother of former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, has been arrested and charged with conspiratorial complicity in the killing of his former brother-in-law, Jose Francisco Ruiz Massieu, secretary-general of Mexico's ruling, oxymoronic Institutional Revolutionary Party. The Mexican federalists charge that he worked on the plot while using his Visiting Scholar position as a cover: (2) Special prosecutors

in Tijuana wrecked the government's lone nut theory in the assassination of Luis Donaldo Colosio, certain to have been the next president of Mexico if he had not been gunned down, by arresting Othon Cortez Vasquez, a 28 year old man employed by the current president's press office, as the second gunman, Mario Aburto Martinez, a factory worker in Tijuana, was convicted in November 1994 of Colosio's murder. Six people claiming to be relatives of Martinez illegally crossed the border and requested political asylum. Colosio's widow notes correctly, "It will be very difficult to know the truth any time soon about the death of my husband." (Special thanks to Tim Lauzon for the research.)...Colin Trouble: As General Colin Powell mulls

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over the possibilities of a presidential bid, the conspiracy circuit will not long forget that his potential vice-presidential candidate Richard Armitage, former Assistant Secretary of Defense under Reagan, has been connected to the Golden Triangle heroin traffic by Bo Gritz and as having been compromised into corrupting the process of finding surviving Vietnam POWs and MIAs by Ross Perot. In the late 1980s, Daniel Sheehan's Christic Institute charged that Armitage belonged to a cabal dating back the Vietnam War which used profits from drug sales to finance arms trading and secret commando operations, activity he repeated during the Iran-Contra scandal. While courting Powell as a possible vice-president for his own candidacy, Ross Perot reported these charges to the Defense Department, resulting in two FBI investigations that exonerated Armitage. Even so, it is a matter of public record that Powell, Armitage and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger were the only Pentagon officials with knowledge of the full details of Iran/Contra arms transactions...*Dairy of A Mad Cow*: Dr. Harash Narang has received permission to conduct promising diagnostic tests on Jean Wake, a 38 year old woman who may be dying of Creutzfeldt Jakob, or "Mad Cow", Disease, a degenerative ailment of the central nervous system that once captivated the attention of investigator Danny Casolaro. Current medical technology can only diagnose the disease after the victim dies; Dr. Narang plans to develop testing procedures for Mad Cow Disease in living people as well as for its animal equivalent, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, in living cattle. In the early 1990s, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy almost destroyed the British beef industry (Germany nearly outlawed importing beef from England) when a number of cases—1000 cases a week according to the Agriculture Ministry's chief epidemiologist—occurred among its cattle fodder. The disease has been connected to Bovine Growth Hormone, now injected into cows to improve milk production via a process developed by Monsanto Chemical. Cows injected with the hormone feed on meat and bone meal "rendered" from other animals, including other cows that have died from indeterminate cause. Cows contract Bovine Encephalopathy from eating infected meat. In humans, the disease can incubate for up to three decades. In January 1995, the *Scottish Daily Record & Sunday Mail* reported that nearly 7,000 cattle were slaughtered after Mad Cow Disease struck more than one in six farms in Scotland...*Next issue out in short order*; readers will not have to wait as long for the next issue of *Steamshovel Press*. The current issue was

delayed by the production of two books, *The Octopus: Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro*, to be released by Feral House next spring; and *Popular Alienation*, an anthology of *Steamshovel Press* back issues now available from IllumiNet Press (\$19.95; IllumiNet Press, POB 2808, Lilburn, GA 30226, Visa and MasterCard Orders call toll free 1-800-680-NET).

Popular Alienation includes one chapter of new material, dubbed *Steamshovel Press* #13. To take advantage of the irresistible #13, subscriptions have all been bumped up one number (all subscriptions that ended with issue #14, for instance, now end with issue #15). Individual back issues of *Steamshovel Press* are still available for \$5 each plus \$1 postage. An overworked editor/publisher expresses gratitude for readers' patience.

Fits Like A Glove?: The events of the OJ Simpson trial match the Casey Sucharski scenario more neatly than anything since the Reagan election and the October Surprise. Casimer Sucharski, Michael Militello and OJ were under investigation in Florida in the 1970s for drugs—only Sucharski was ever prosecuted and he got off with \$200 fine. After Nicole Brown's June 12 murder, on the weekend of July 16, Militello visited to OJ in his cell. The following week, on July 27, Sucharski was found dead in Miramar, Florida. The scenario goes like this: Sucharski arranged Nicole Brown's murder to send a message to OJ to pay off a drug debt (possibly owed to the owner of the San Francisco 49ers); OJ, through Michael Militello, arranged Sucharski's murder; the prosecution and the defense never even attempted to get near the truth—save for some thinly veiled threats sent to the court by Robert Shapiro. Add this up from the recent developments and revelations: 1. Dominick Dunne, the slack-jaw interpreter of the trial for *Vanity Fair*, told ABC that one of the jury guards told him the jurors were packed on the Sunday before the verdict; 2. News reports indicated that Ito ordered the jurors to pack their bags; 3. the incestuous relationships: Ito's wife was Fuhrman's boss; Nicole Brown's sister's boyfriend was defense witness Tony "The Animal" Fiato; 4. According to Sherman Skolnick, both OJ and Nicole both held interests in fried chicken franchises also co-owned by the Japanese Yakuza and known as drug-laundering outfits (call Skolnick's hotline, 312-731-1100 for details); 5. A man can't repay a drug debt from prison; Ito's juror dismissals ended with the right demographic for an acquittal. One pundit suggested on *Rivera Live* that Fuhrman was the killer. Could Fuhrman also

SHAPIRO: YOUR HONOR...WE HAVE NO DISCOVERY ON THIS. I HAVE CALLED THIS LADY AND ASKED TO TALK TO HER AND SHE REFUSED TO TALK TO US.

DARDEN: YOU JUST REALLY NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO GET FROM MRS. COLBY. (CATHERINE BOE COLBY, WIFE OF NICOLE BROWN NEIGHBOR CARL COLBY, SON OF SPOOK WILLIAM COLBY).

COCHRAN: IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF YOU TALKED TO HER.

DARDEN: I HAVE, BUT I BELIEVE SHE IS GOING TO TESTIFY THAT...

COCHRAN: SHE IS AN *ALIEN* FROM ANOTHER PLANET!

have been a mob patsy in helping put the right pressure on the court for get CJ off? **Jailbirds Do It:** Brenda Loew Tatelbaum, who publishes the sex rights newspaper *EIDOS*, plans to violate a new federal law requiring the registration of names and ages of porn models. Send support to POB 96, Boston, MA 02137. **To Be Reviewed Next Issue:** Ben Bradlee's new memoir includes revelations about giving sister-in-law Mary Pinchot Meyer's diary to superspook James Jesus Angleton. What kind of reporter would do that?

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The Conspiracy Conspiracy

by Jack Burden

If you believe a growing chorus of voices in the media, Bill Clinton is the head of the Illuminati, or at least the Knights of Malta. For months now, the alternative ether has been full of rumors, allegations and innuendoes about Clinton and a growing list of supposed crimes. Clinton's alleged misdeeds range from the Whitewater scam to murdering Vince Foster to renting Mena, Arkansas to the Medellin drug cartel. Does anyone want to toss in the Simpson slayings while we're at it?

The chorus of accusers includes featured soloists like Christian rightists Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson, guns-and-God activist Linda Thompson, talk radio reactionaries Rush Limbaugh and G. Gordon Liddy as well as ostensibly countercultural publications like *Paranoia* magazine. In addition to these folks (who, after all, don't apologize for being wild or crazy), there is a phalanx of more traditional voices from what's called "the mainstream."—i.e., the more "responsible" sectors of the ruling class. These include the editors of the *Wall Street Journal* editorial page, Lord William Rees-Mogg of the *London Times*, staffers at the Moonie-owned *Washington Times* and noted moral paragons like Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato.

The claims, without substantiation, have also surfaced in the heart of the mainstream, in articles in the *Washington Post* and on TV shows like *Rivera Live*, where they are presented not as news items in themselves but as the bracketed claims of some newsworthy individual. Though the mainstream journalists present the rumors with disclaimers about their truth value, the net effect is that the rumors are reproduced. And that's all a sexy lie needs in our space age au gogo disinformation society—repetition. "Say it enough times and it becomes true" is the guiding principle of postmodern media manipulation.

Et voilà; the now stock reading of Clinton as someone who, wherever he goes, is "dogged by questions," to quote the *Chicago Tribune*.

This is not to say that Clinton's record is without blemish or above reproach; far from it. But this isn't about Clinton's record, it's about smear tactics, propaganda campaigns and a double standard in the press.

THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT CLINTON'S RECORD IS WITHOUT BLEMISH OR ABOVE REPROACH; FAR FROM IT. BUT THIS ISN'T ABOUT CLINTON'S RECORD, IT'S ABOUT SMEAR TACTICS, PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGNS AND A DOUBLE STANDARD IN THE PRESS.

WHERE WERE CLINTON'S ACCUSERS—PARTICULARLY PILLARS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT LIKE ROBERTSON, THE JOURNAL, THE POST AND THE TIMES—WHEN THE REAGANITES WERE COMMITTING SHAMELESS ASSAULTS ON DEMOCRACY THROUGHOUT THE 1980S?

Where were Clinton's accusers—particularly pillars of the establishment like Robertson, the *Journal*, the *Post* and the *Times*—when the Reaganites were committing shameless assaults on democracy throughout the 1980s? When real big-time conspiracies were being run from the oval office, these folks were nowhere to be found. Iran-Contra amounted to an attempted fascist takeover of the government, but the story of this conspiracy, and particularly Reagan-Bush involvement in it, was swept under the rug by the same people who now want a special prosecutor to investigate every presidential bowel movement.

Though Clinton is dogged by questions, Reagan was never dogged by anything other than a sycophantic press corps. Mainstream journalists always shake their heads about this phenomenon, as if the Gipper just had some magic knack for avoiding incrimination. He was the Teflon president, they chuckle; nothing stuck to him. In fact though, this was due to the press acting as Reagan's Teflon shield. Now, for some mysterious reason, the shields are down and Clinton is continually blasted, not just for things he actually did, but for any comic book scenario his enemies can cook up. With Reagan, even verified assaults on the constitution like Iran-Contra were downplayed in the media. With Clinton, anything goes and it goes right to the top of the media agenda.

And consider George Bush. When the issue of his since proven Iran-Contra involvement was raised by Dan Rather during the '88 campaign,

THE ORCHESTRATED PATTERN OF RUMORS, ALLEGATIONS AND CONSPIRACY FEARS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF WHAT IN THE CIA THEY CALL "PSY-OPS," OR PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS. SPECIFICALLY, IT SMACKS OF THE PSY-OPS SUBGENRE CALLED "BLACK PROPAGANDA."

Bush simply pitched a how-dare-you-ask-such-a-question fit and the matter was dropped, never to be picked up again. (In fact, Bush scored points with mainstream pundits for "standing up to the press" and defusing the dreaded wimp factor.)

When Iran-Contra Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh published his findings in 1993, he clearly implicated both Reagan and Bush in the scheme to trade arms for hostages, deceive Congress and illegally arm the Contras in their attempt to overthrow the government of Nicaragua. The Clinton conspiracy freaks mentioned above uttered nary a peep, though they scathingly criticized fellow Republican Walsh for wasting the taxpayers' money and conducting a witch hunt.

Clinton, on the other hand, is about to be subpoenaed by his *second* special prosecutor in the Whitewater matter. The first one, a Republican, cleared the White House of any wrongdoing, a finding that, in the view of Clinton's enemies, simply wouldn't do. A three man team of federal judges (all Reagan appointees) used an obscure legal loophole to declare the previous investigation invalid and appoint a new special prosecutor. The new prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, is a right-wing ideologue who, before being appointed, had offered free legal counsel to Clinton accuser Paula Jones. Is the legal system being used for political ends here? Is the special prosecutor function being abused in a blatant attempt to undermine Clinton politically? Not according to the Republicans. They deplored one special prosecutor for Iran-Contra, but for Whitewater, we apparently can't have enough.

And then there's Whitewater itself. All investigations thus far have, as I've said, cleared the Clintons of any wrongdoing. But let's assume, for the sake of argument, that all the allegations about the Clintons and Whitewater are true. Let's assume they scammed a lot of money in a shady real estate deal made possible by Reaganite policies that deregulated the savings and loan industry. That's certainly not cute, but methinks Sen. D'Amato, Rev. Robertson and company do protest too much. This is, after all, the kind of financial scam that the upper classes consider their birthright, the sort of thing for which Republicans and the *Wall Street Journal* ordinarily give out

medals. Hell, in the Bush household you got spanked if you didn't bring home a scam like this every fiscal quarter.

Also, at its worst, Whitewater is a financial scam, pure and simple. It's not in the same solar system, let alone the same league, as Watergate or Iran Contra. One is a ripoff, and one is a coup d'etat. One is an 80s-style attempt to scam a quick buck and one is an assault on our system of government, on your right to have your voice heard in a representative democracy. There is a slight difference of scale and of moral-political significance here.

But oh, you say, the death of Vince Foster looks mighty suspicious. Well, maybe, though so far several official investigations have ruled it a suicide. But suppose Foster was murdered. Does that mean the Clintons had him killed? Does President Bill look like the Godfather to you? Is he a figure of fear and terror? Clinton can't even get his version of things on TV. He can't even get fellow Democrats to stop badmouthing him for a few minutes. If this is a criminal mastermind, we're in real trouble.

As for the stories about the airfield at Mena, Arkansas allegedly used in Iran-Contra-related drug smuggling, they have the ring of credibility, given what else we know about Oliver's army. The claim that then-Governor Clinton knew about and approved the use of the airstrip by the North network is a bit flimsier, but let's assume it's true. Does this mean that Clinton is part of what the Christie Institute calls the "secret team"? Is he a national security neofascist of Ollie North proportions? And if he is, then why are North and his political cronies working so mightily to destroy Clinton?

Would that there were some truth in some of these scenarios; at least then it would mean that Clinton had some power. But there is no conspiracy being run by Clinton. Moreover, the claim that such is the case is itself part of the conspiracy *against* Clinton. The orchestrated pattern of rumors, allegations and conspiracy fears about the president has all the earmarks of what in the CIA they call "psy-ops," or psychological operations. Specifically, it smacks of the psy-ops subgenre called "black propaganda."

It is instructive, in this regard, to look at

some of the classic CIA interventions in foreign countries. Take, for example, the agency's destabilization, in the early 70s, of the democratically elected (but, to American corporate interests, unacceptably leftist) government of Salvador Allende in Chile. The CIA ultimately armed and financed a military coup which overthrew the government and left Allende dead. But before it came to that, our boys spent a couple of years just setting up bogus media outlets and floating all sorts of crazy yet vaguely disturbing rumors about Allende. Overnight, wherever he turned, Allende was "dogged by questions."

Could it happen here? Veteran investigative reporter Robert Parry, writing in the Dec. 12 *In These Times*, thinks so:

Today's conservative operatives have achieved striking political success by spreading wild rumors about President Clinton and other administration officials and appointees. The vari-

called Citizens United, headed by a the 33 year old Brown, who looks like Rush Limbaugh's younger, more desperate brother.

Brown describes himself simply as a concerned conservative and claims no affiliation with the Republican party. He admits to having a financial base of some \$3 million, supposedly raised by direct mail solicitations. His organization works round the clock to unmask what he sees as the Clinton Menace, devoting most of its expensive energy to Whitewater. Brown and co. issue daily press releases and hourly fax updates on the topic. They have a Whitewater conspiracy press kit they send out to reporters that practically writes the story for them. If a reporter asks them to, they'll probably set the type and cook the coffee.

Of course Brown and company are just doing this because they "want to see the truth come out." Mainstream Republicans are supposedly embarrassed and disgusted by Brown's sleaze-ball tactics and shameless taste for the smear.

PART OF THE PSY OPS STRATEGY HERE IS THE EXPLOITATION OF POPULAR INTEREST
IN CONSPIRACY.

ous Vince Foster conspiracy theories and stories about political violence in Arkansas continue to undermine Clinton's public standing and are reminiscent of the sophisticated disinformation campaigns that the CIA deployed overseas.

Parry goes on to describe the intricate apparatus of conservative institutions which have been used in recent years to promote the right-wing agenda. Such right-wing propaganda outlets are found at all levels of American culture, from popular to highbrow. They range from fringe group newsletters and radio ranters to periodicals and pundits to TV networks and think tanks. The same apparatus has been used to float and keep afloat the various Clinton conspiracy rumors. These right-wing institutions are peppered with players from the national security establishment and they employ the same dirty tricks strategies deployed by agencies like the CIA.

Take, for example, the case of one Floyd G. Brown. A huge amount of what you've read about Whitewater has not, contrary to what you may think, been dug up by the reporters whose bylines appear on the stories about the affair. The financial labyrinth of it all is too boring and time-consuming for your average journalist (or, for that matter, your average reader). Most of the Whitewater press emanates from an organization

But check it out: The last time Republicans were "embarrassed" by Floyd G. Brown was in the 1988 election, when they were embarrassed all the way to the White House. It was Brown who produced the racist Willie Horton TV ad which practically won the election for George Bush singlehanded. When Bush was confronted with complaints that the ad combined racist stereotypes with outright lies, he too condemned it. The ad continued to run, however, because it was the "independent" work of Brown and so, supposedly, out of Bush's control. Thus Bush was able to benefit from a race-baiting appeal while giving lip service to its condemnation. Of course Brown, Bush and the rest of the "conservatives" involved in this incident were completely unacquainted with each other and just wanted to see the truth come out. Just ask Michael Dukakis.

This is the way the game is played by the well-funded media manipulators of the right. Consequently, it's not surprising to see right-wingers like Limbaugh, Falwell and D'Amato promoting the Clinton conspiracy cartoon. What's disturbing is the way that people who should know better—members of the countercultural left—have been sucked into the scam.

Part of the psy ops strategy here is the exploitation of popular interest in conspiracy. Though mainstream rationalism would have it that

American politics always proceeds in an open, orderly, democratic fashion—that conspiracy can't happen here—contemporary Americans know better. They've learned better. The Kennedy assassination seems to shriek conspiracy, but not everyone agrees on that, so let's leave it aside. Watergate was unquestionably a case of the C word, as was Iran-Contra. Conspiracies, at very high levels of the US establishment, *do* occur. This history has, understandably, made Americans profoundly suspicious of the words and deeds of the high and mighty.

It has also contributed to the emergence of a new genre of popular culture, one we might call *conspiracy noir*. This genre is large and growing, and includes everything from the fiction of Robert Anton Wilson and Umberto Eco to TV shows like the *X Files*, Hollywood movies like *JFK* and comics like *The Invisibles*. Combining existential dread, political cynicism, fascinating occult mumbo jumbo and the sense of significant things hovering just beyond the veil, this genre has immense appeal as both entertainment and cultural myth.

In Euro-American politics of the right, there is a tradition of conspiracy theory, an extremely checkered one. Far-rightists can always tell you the names and phone numbers of the members of the Ruling Cabal. And though such analyses are shrill, naively personalistic and often racist, they do arise from political conditions, of oppression and corruption, that are actual, though typically misread by the rightists. This, to a large extent, is the history of what's called populism in American politics.

"Antisemitism is the socialism of fools," the saying goes. This is to say that genuine critical energy and political outrage are easily manipulated and often misdirected against racial scapegoats. Any good leftist will tell you that the ruling class isn't just a myth or an intellectual construct; that structures of power, domination and exploitation are real in a society built on principles of self interest, scarcity and competition. But by the same token, the ruling class isn't a set of personalities, let alone a racial group; it's a complex social formation that transcends individuals. If David Rockefeller or Ollie North weren't around, the forces of multinational capital and the national security state would find others eager to do the dirty work.

So beware of simplistic conspiracy theories: they're often scapegoating fantasies. But beware too of the mindset that says conspiracies never happen and that talk about them is nothing but fantasy. Both positions are irrational oversimplifi-

cations.

It's illogical to assume conspiracies happen everywhere, but equally absurd to claim, *a priori*, that they never do. Moreover, not all conspiracies are equal.

In Hitler's Germany, the myth of an international Jewish-communist conspiracy was used to scapegoat Jews and justify the holocaust. The international Jewish-communist conspiracy was a pernicious fantasy. But the Nazis' final solution, their plan to exterminate the Jews, *was* a conspiracy, an agreement to commit mass murder, and it was very much a genocidal reality. Moreover, in Nazi Germany, popular belief in the false conspiracy (of Jews) was essential to the working of the real conspiracy (to exterminate the Jews).

In the US today, there is, in addition to the traditional right-wing interest in conspiracy, a new element, the broad-based pop cult of conspiracy mentioned above. The *conspiracy noir* cult has evolved for reasons, both historical and sociological, that are understandable and important. Propaganda specialists like Floyd Brown are well aware of this newly expanded audience for conspiracy theory and mean to take advantage of it. Consequently, they work to generate sexy conspiracy material for the consumption of both the standard right-wing audience and the mainstream, tabloidized *conspiracy noir* culture. Such propaganda campaigns play on fantasy but have very real effects; the "crimes of Clinton" scam, with its debilitating effect on Clinton's credibility, is a case in point. What we are seeing is the exploitation of popular conspiracy consciousness for the purpose of advancing a pernicious hidden agenda. Now *that's* a conspiracy.





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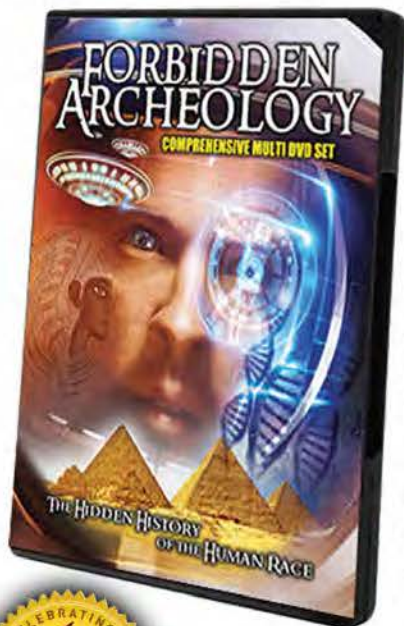
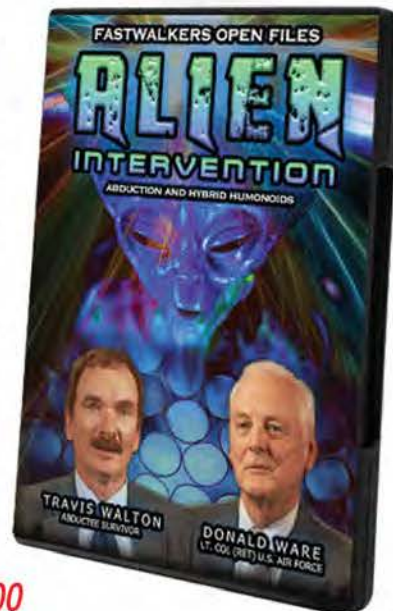
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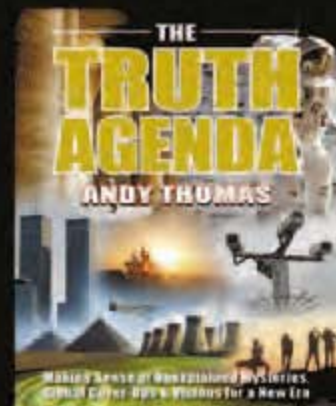


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